FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FRONT PLANS WORK STOPPAGE AT BRITISH FIRMS

PY282044 Paris AFP in Spanish 1755 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Lima 28 Jan (AFP) -- The Latin American Argentine Malvinas Front [Frente Latino-Americano Malvinas Argentinas] has reported in Lima that it is organizing a stoppage in all British companies established in Latin America scheduled for 2 April 1983.

The first anniversary of the occupation of the Malvinas by Argentine troops will be celebrated on that day. This front recalled that last year it mobilized regional public opinion in support of the Argentine claim.

Eduardo Val, chairman of the front, told reporters that as far as Peru is concerned, the stoppage has the support of all the union boards in the country, and that the Latin American Interunion Group has also promised its support for the initiative.

LA PAZ MEETING OF LEFTIST POLITICAL GROUPS ENDS

PY010218 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] The third meeting of South American leftist political groups concluded today with the signing of the declaration of La Paz.

South American leftist leaders held a 2-day meeting in La Paz. The document signed at the end of the deliberations emphasizes that the Latin American people's liberation will be attained only when all the governments of the continent adopt a democratic and popular system.

The declaration also praises the prevailing of democracy in Bolivia, something which encourages all the countries to seek the consolidation of a democratic process.

During a press conference held a few hours ago, Deputy (Carlos Roca Caceres), member of APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] of Peru, read out some of the highlights of the document signed by leftist leaders of seven nations.

[Begin (Roca Caceres) recording] Bolivia's democratization is proof that the announcement made during the meeting held in Lima to analyze the situation of the dictatorial regimes of the region was right.

We hereby state that the liberating struggle of large majority groups continues with better prospects for success in Argentina and Uruguay, to which we express our strongest support. At the same time, we hereby condemn the antinational dictatorships of Chile and Paraguay, which continue to maintain repressive systems. [end recording]

(Alejandro Bramontes), leader of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] of Chile, stated that Chile is currently immersed in a political, economic, moral and social crisis.

Asked about the problems [words indistinct], (Bramontes) stated:

[Begin (Bramontes) recording] Chile is currently immersed in a political, economic, moral and social crisis. This crisis, which began to aggravate by mid 1981, became really dramatic in 1982. [passage indistinct] for example, the present unemployment rate. [end recording]

The Chilean MIR leader also stated that Chile's rate of unemployment is currently running at 33 percent [words indistinct] the serious financial situation. He also stated that (?industrial production decreased by) 17 percent in relation to previous years.

ASIMRA BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN BUENOS AIRES BOMBED

PY312317 Paris AFP in Spanish 2216 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jan (AFP) -- A medium-powered explosive device went off early this morning at the headquarters of the Association of Supervisors of the Argentine Metallurgical Industry (Asimra), causing damage but no victims.

The Asimra building is located in downtown Buenos Aires. Thus the explosion, which occurred in the building's lobby, caused alarm among neighbors. Members of the Federal Police bomb squad went to the building to investigate the attack and to track down its perpetrators.

BIGNONE INTERVIEW ON BEAGLE, FALKLANDS, POLITICS

PY311954 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] President Bignone arrived at 0900 in Government House [passage indistinct]. Later on he referred to the Beagle Channel question, noting that it all depends on developments in the papal mediation and on whether a solution is backed by a general consensus. Bignone added that as I have said more than once, since congressional activity is soon to be resumed with the participation of the people's legitimate representatives, signing such an important agreement just a few months earlier requires a total consensus.

Asked about the manner in which that consensus can be achieved, Bignone replied that in fact the best manner to achieve it has not been analyzed, because the manner also depends on the proposal's timing. If there is an acceptable proposal for solution near the elections, it seems that the most logical thing to do is postpone the acceptance of that proposal until the future government takes over.

During the interview, President Bignone returned to the question of the U.S. representatives' visit, and he noted that they were not given any other information that is not known inside the country. He said that what the interior minister did was give a brief and quick account of what terrorism was like in our country, but no information other than that which has been published in the national media.

As for his relation with the Army general commander, Bignone said that he maintains a close association with him because they are both Army men.

Regarding the information in the hands of the Interservice Commission on the Malvinas question, he said that the decision to form the commission was made by the military junta. Bignone then said that the report from that commission will first be submitted to the military junta, and only later to the country.

The president said that the cancellation of the institutional act which stripped the officials of the last government of their constitutional rights is being studied. He noted that the institutional acts are constantly revised and improved, and that this has been done since the beginning of the process.

The economic question was also brought up, and in this regard the president stated that the government works both with possibilities and realities. He recognized that a family cannot live on 5 million pesos per month, although he noted that usually there are supplementary forms of income to make it possible to defray family expenses. As for the possibility of guaranteeing a minimum standard of living, the president expressed his agreement with the idea, observing that the problem is how to provide that guarantee.

In reference to the foreign debt, President Bignone said that the government knows the total amount of the debt, and that the country will have to pay it. Only after determining any irregularity, can the government adopt the appropriate measures. Regardless of any possible irregularities, the debt must be paid because doing so is in Argentina's best tradition, and I am convinced of that. Bignone then added: Whoever has information regarding irregularities in the debt should step forward and make precise accusations.

Regarding the policy of Martinez de Hoz, Bignone pointed out that it had its flaws because the results were not those expected.

Bignone quashed rumors that he will go into politics when he steps down from the presidency by saying that politics is neither his inclination or his interest.

Asked whether he was thinking of joining a political party, the president said smiling that he was not.

PARAGUAYAN BORDER INCIDENT PROTEST REJECTED

PY282050 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1451 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Jan (NA) -- Argentina has rejected the Paraguayan protest over the bordern incident which took place on 8 January 1983 at the international bridge joining the cities of Asuncion and Clorinda, where a Paraguayan citizen was killed and another wounded.

It was learned that the Argentine Foreign Ministry based its rejection of the Paraguayan protest on the fact that since events have not yet been properly clarified, "It is too early to level charges against anyone."

On 14 January, the Paraguayan Government delivered a formal note of protest to Argentina's Ambassador Gen Eduardo Crespi.

Yesterday morning, Antonio Masulli Fuster, Paraguayan ambassador to Argentina, was summoned by the Foreign Ministry, where he received the answer of the Argentine Government.

Foreign Ministry sources report that the ambassador's meeting with Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari was short and "cordial."

The incident took place when an Argentine border police patrol shot at the crew of a boat that was presumably carrying smuggled gasoline. During the exchange of fire that followed, a Paraguayan was killed and another one was seriously wounded.

It should be noted that, before answering the Paraguayan protest, the Argentine Foreign Ministry made repeated contacts with the border police in order to learn the details of the incident.

ARGENTINA ENDORSES VENEZUELA TO NONALIGNED GROUP

PY312110 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jan (TELAM) -- Argentina feels that the Nonaligned Movement will be enhanced with the positive contribution of Venezuela and goes on record as an active cosponsor for the entrance of Venezuela into the Nonaligned Movement. This statement is included in the note presented in New York on Friday to the head of the Nonaligned Movement.

The note signed by Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari on behalf of the national government, states the following:

I have the honor to address your excellency regarding the request made by the Venezuelan Government on 20 September 1982 seeking to firm up its participation as a full member of the Nonaligned Movement.

The meeting of the movement at ministerial level held in October 1982 at the United Nations in New York agreed that the decision on the entrance of Venezuela will be adopted at the summit conference that will take place in India in March 1983.

The Argentine Government feels that the Venezuelan foreign policy and its international behavior is fully in line with the principles and rules of the movement, which will be strengthened by the entrance of that Latin American country.

It should be noted in this regard that the recent meeting of the Coordination Bureau held in Managua clearly endorsed the declaration of specific initiatives of the Venezuelan Government regarding Central America, which are evident proof of the Venezuelan interest in guaranteeing peaceful coexistence in that region. At the same time, the initiatives also demonstrate the need to have the ranks of the Nonaligned Movement strengthened by the positive contribution of Venezuela.

On addressing this note to your excellency, in view of the presidency of the movement which your illustrious government (Cuba) is holding, I want to note for the record that Argentina cosponsors the entrance of Venezuela into the Nonaligned Movement and requests that this be made known to the other members of the Coordination Bureau.

PRC AMBASSADOR ON SUPPORT FOR FALKLANDS CLAIM

PY271930 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1325 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 27 Jan (TELAM) -- Wei Baoshan, PRC ambassador to Argentina, has said in Comodoro Rivadavia that his country has always maintained a coherent attitude toward Argentina's claim and that the PRC Government and people have always firmly supported Argentina's position on the Malvinas Islands.

The PRC diplomat indicated that Great Britain's attitude is typical of a strong nation toward a weaker one. He also said that the position which the United States had assumed was unfair.

Ambassador Wei is visiting Patagonia as a tourist and also to gather information. In Comodoro Rivadavia he has already toured oil industry districts.

During an interview which the newspaper EL PATAGONICO of Comodoro Rivadavia published today, Wei said: "As Beijing's ambassador in Argentina I am greatly interested in getting to know this country better and to encourage friendship and good relations."

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO IVORY COAST -- Buenos Aires, 28 Jan (TELAM) -- The government of the Ivory Coast has agreed to the appointment of Rafael Enrique Jimenez as the new Argentine ambassador to that country. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2310 GMT 28 Jan 83 PY]

INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR FAREWELL CALL -- On 27 January, President Reynaldo Bignone received Indonesian Ambassador to Argentina Anak Agung Jelantik, who said goodbye to President Bignone upon concluding his mission in Argentina. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 27 Jan 83 PY]

SILES CLAIMS 'MILITARY ARROGANCE' DEFEATED

PY300044 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Excerpts] President Hernan Siles Zuazo has stated in Santa Cruz that workers throughout the country will receive a substantial increase in their wages during the month of February. President Siles Zuazo made this statement during a rally of oil workers held at the oil refinery of (Panasola). This wage increase will be the result of the 100-day truce requested by the government of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP].

The president stated that the government has inherited a [word indistinct] country, and that no miracles should be expected, but that committees for the defense of the economy should be organized.

President Siles Zuazo also stated that military arrogance has been defeated and that the Armed Forces are now following the provisions of the national Constitution.

PRESIDENT INSTALLS FINANCE, EDUCATION MINISTERS

PY010103 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Constitutional President Hernan Siles Zuazo today installed and administered the oath of office to Finance Minister Flavio Machicado (Saravia) and Education Minister Enrique Ipina Melgar.

The ceremony was held in the Hall of the Mirrors at Government House at 1700 this afternoon. All the cabinet ministers participated in the ceremony.

RICO TORO, LEA PLAZA APPOINTED TO ASIAN POSTS

PY300054 Paris AFP in Spanish 0233 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] La Paz, 28 Jan (AFP) -- Col Faustino Rico Toro, who unsuccessfully proclaimed himself president of Bolivia in an effort to succeed Gen Celso Torrelio Villa in June 1982, has been appointed military attache in ROK, it was reported here today.

Rico Toro was the leader of the hard-line military officers who supported the coup staged by Gen Luis Garcia Meza and Col Luis Arce Gomez on 17 July 1980.

According to an official Army staff report, Col Rodrigo Lea Plaza, another hard-liner, has been appointed military attache in Taiwan.

SANTA CRUZ DECLARED IN EMERGENCY DUE TO FLOODS

PY010051 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Excerpt] The city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra has been declared in a state of emergency as a result of the flooding of the Piray River. The Piray River waters today reached the Hotel Tajibos, located in downtown Santa Cruz.

Panamericana's correspondent reported that Santa Cruz de la Sierra was affected by heavy rains for approximately 10 hours. The community of (Corocheto), close to Santa Cruz, was practically destroyed by the Piray River waters.

PRESIDENT DENIES HAVING CRITICIZED CONGRESS

PY311653 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Jan 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- In an official note released yesterday, the Planalto Palace clarified that "at no time" did President Figueiredo criticize Congress as an institution, and that the talk held between the president and Sao Paulo Deputy Herbert Levy [of the opposition] the day before "was a personal and confidential talk, and was not meant for publicity." During that talk, answering Deputy Levy's criticism, Figueiredo said "Congress had better behave" [precisa criar vergonha].

The official note was released as rumors circulated in this capital that Senate President Senator Jarbas Passarinho had contacted the Planalto Palace asking for an official clarification of the episode. According to those rumors, Passarinho had previously announced to civilian Cabinet chief Leitao de Abreu his decision to issue a Senate communique if the Planalto Palace did not release a clarification.

PMDB HITS GOVERNMENT 'ECONOMIC DICTATORSHIP'

PY311735 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 29 Jan 83 p 2

[Text] The National Executive Board of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] approved last night a report, entitled "The PMDB and the Regime," which was prepared by a group of party leaders coordinated by Deputy-elect Miguel Arraes. The report claims that "the regime is interested in political liberalization because it needs to legitimize the measure it adopted in the economic area," adding that "the growing dependency of the economy on foreign capital finds no public support and undermines the regime's weak social base." The PMDB therefore believes that the government tactic consists of "making room in the political area in order to maintain a dictatorship in the economic area," and that the most recent example of this foreign dependency is the "surrender to the IMF" without consulting Congress.

The document says that the position of the PMDB is "to see to it that social and political forces coalesce and then condemn the economic model and everything resulting from it," and do so based on the PMDB manifesto and program. The report defends the "rigid and yet flexible" section of the PMDB, adding that it is "rigid regarding its national objectives to which actions at the sector, state and local levels need be adjusted. This requires giving shape to a public opinion which is conscious of both diversity and unity, the latter being the PMDB's main weapon, its rule for action opposed to the dispersion which is desired by the dominating forces."

Without making any reference to the idea of making governors-elect "toe the line," the PMDB report proposes forms of action and immediate measures aiming at "mobilizing the party at the municipal, regional and national levels."

The immediate measures to mobilize the party and decentralize its actions also implies the quest for a position of unity with the country's democratic sectors, a position conductive to a National Constituent Assembly with respect for differences and divergences existing not only among its membership but also among parties in the opposition.

ARMY MINISTRY CUTS BUDGET 12 BILLION CRUZEIROS

PY181415 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 7 Jan 83 p 5

[Text] Army Minister Gen Walter Pires signed yesterday a resolution, which will be published in the official gazzette in the nest few days, ordering a cut of 12 billion cruzeiros in current and capital expenditures of the Army Ministry. Those expenditures currently amount to 100,850,000,000 cruzeiros.

This measure was adopted after studies made by the Joint Army Staff and the Army Secretariat General for Economy and Finance in compliance with a decree-law signed by President Joao Figueiredo on 1 January, ordering a 12 percent cut in 1983 budget apportionments.

In the area of the Army, the 12 percent cut was exclusively implemented in the departments sector because that sector has the largest volume of resources, thereby permitting more flexibility to make cuts, Army Secretary for Economy and Finances Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves explained. He added that the cut in budgetary expenses should not be attributed to any grant design but only to "operational necessity."

General Goncalves said: "We have to adjust to the nation's needs by implementing the recommendations of high level studies conducted by the Planning Secretariat of the Presidency." He then observed that cuts could be reinstated during the year through supplemental budgeting.

The cuts were made in accordance with recommendations in the presidential decree-law to spare apportionments for personnel salary, social services and amortizations of external and internal financing. Also the budgetary funds for war arsenal projects were spared from cuts.

Under the means and budget law, the entire Army has a total budget of 260 billion cruzeiros. No cuts were made in items representing more than 50 percent of the total budget.

ACOMINAS FOREIGN DEBT RENEGOTIATED BY PENA

PY311604 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 29 Jan 83 p 20

[Text] Brasilia -- With the apporval of the Planning Ministry, Industry and Commerce Minister Camilo Pena negotiated in London this week a solution for the financial problem of Acominas [Minas Gerais Steel Company]. The negotiation involved a BNDE [National Economic Development Bank] 102-billion cruzeiros loan with a $120-million matching loan from French, German and British banks.

That loan scheme, which was announced yesterday by Minister Penna upon his return from a quick trip through Europe, is part of a negotiation package including larger quotas of Brazilian steel exports to the EEC subsidies to beet sugar production, subsidies which are affecting the price of sugar in the international market.

As the industry and commerce minister explained, the complicated operation to rescue Acominas represents in practice a renegotiation of the debt the company contracted last year with European financial groups through an operation of advance sales of steel products the manufacture of which should begin in the second half of this year.

Acominas debts are partially estimated at $180 million.

LUDERS, CACERES RETURN FROM U.S., IMF TALKS

PY302110 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Ricardo Urzua report from Pudahuel airport]

[Excerpt] Economy and Finance Minister Rolf Luders returned this afternoon to the country from the United States where he held negotiations with U.S., IMF and international banking officials. He arrived at 1310 accompanied by Central Bank President Carlos Caceres.

Asked about the results of his mission, Luders said: Good, good.

Report to Pinochet on Debt Extension

PY312351 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Graciela Contreras report from Government House]

[Excerpt] During a 45-minute meeting with President Pinochet, Economy and Finance Minister Rolf Luders submitted a detailed report on the results of his meetings with U.S. Government officials and bankers in New York.

Minister Luders informed the president that the deadline for paying off Chile's foreign debt will be automatically extended for an additional 90-day term. Minister Luders also reported that a consulting commission made up of 12 international banks will be created. This commission will be charged with analyzing the possibility of supporting Chile's foreign financing plan for 1983-84.

Minister Rolf Luders made no statements to the press at the end of his meeting with the head of state at La Moneda Palace. However, it was reported that Luder's report covers all the negotiations with U.S. financial organizations.

Cooperation of International Banks Noted

PY312355 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Sofofa [Industrial Development Association] Chairman (Ernesto Ayala) has stated that the international banks are willing to help Chile to find solutions to its economic problems.

(Ayala) made statements at the end of a meeting with Economy and Finance Minister Rolf Luders. (Ayala) forms part of a group of representatives of the Confederation for Production and Trade that meets with Minister Luders weekly. (Jorge Yarubi), president of the Association of Banks and (Luis Correa Prieto), chairman of the National Chamber of Commerce, also participated in the meeting.

(Ayala) stated that Minister Luders briefed them on the negotiations carried out with international banks in New York last week.

(Ayala) expressed his belief that the situation is favorable for Chile since the international banks are willing to help Chile overcome its situation. (Ayala) also stated that Chile's foreign debt deadline will be excended for an additional 90-day term so that Chile can continue carrying out negotiations with international financial organizations.

PRESIDENT BETANCUR RECOVERING AT NARINO PALACE

PA301835 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Report by Juan Carlos Martinez from Narino Palace]

[Excerpt] Today President Belisario Betancur was transferred to Narino Palace, where he is recovering satisfactorily from surgery on 25 January.

Meanwhile the ministers' council has continued its sessions. The president has instructed his ministers to continue discussing those bills that deal with the current economic emergency.

'SERIOUS STREET DISTURBANCES' REPORTED IN LIBANO

PA311607 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The town of Libano, in northern El Tolima Department, is today under military control following yesterday's serious street disturbances which left 22 wounded and approximately 100 arrested. In addition there was substantial damage to businesses. After a dialogue between the civic committee and city authorities was suspended, residents started street demonstrations early Sunday morning protesting increased water rates.

The disturbances triggered clashes with the police, who had to use teargas and ask for help from special military patrols which, after several hours of tension, were able to restore peace. Libano Mayor (Berta Rodriguez de Charry), invoked a dry law in the jurisdiction. Seven policemen and at least 15 civilians had to be treated at the local hospital for injuries received during the disturbances.

M-19 DENIES HOSTILE REPORT, TO CONTINUE TRUCE

PA280731 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The 19 April Movement, M-19, today reiterated that it has not staged any violent action since the amnesty law went into effect. M-19 leader Jaime Bateman Cayon today sent a letter to President Belisario Bentacur stating this peaceful stand. A copy of the letter was anonymously delivered to this newscast's office.

Bateman stated that the M-19 has declared a truce until May. He indicated that the truce declared in November 1982 is to study the actions of the government in favor of the popular classes. He said that if the actions of the government are the correct ones, peace will be total.

ARMY RESCUES 37 CAPTIVES, KILLS FARC NOTABLE

PA270439 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Bogota -- Thirty-seven people who were being held by the third front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] on the Yali plains have been rescued in an Army operation. It was reported that the commander of the FARC's third front, known only as (Efrain), died in the fighting. The operation is still going on and additional information on the clash in which the 37 prisoners were released is not available. It was learned that the rebel's were demanding 300 million pesos for the release of their captives.

ECUADOR AGREES TO STUDY INCIDENT WITH PERU

PA290218 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Note presented to the Peruvian charge d'affaires in Quito by the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry on 28 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] Quito, 28 January 1983

Mr Charge d'Affaires:

In relation to Note No RE:K003 of 26 January addressed by his excellency the Peruvian foreign minister to the Ecuadorean ambassador in Lima, I have the honor of notifying you that my government is willing to participate with the Peruvian Government in the establishment of the binational commission contemplated in the document drawn up by the military authorities of both countries in the Ecuadorean detachment of Ishpingo on 21 January 1983.

The objective of this commission must be the clarification of the incident that occurred between members of the armed forces of both countries in the area of the Pastaza River on 18 January, and the circumstances in which the incident occurred.

Although I do not agree with several of the assertions contained in the aforementioned note, I refrain from replying to them, moved by the desire to overcome the incident and of not prolonging a negative discussion, as I expressed in the last paragraph of my note No 483GMDCSN of 24 January. I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Luis Valencia Rodriguez, foreign affairs minister

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE CRITICIZES RIO PROTOCOL

PA290222 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry communique on the anniversary of the signing of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol, issued in Quito on 28 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] On the occasion of a new anniversary of the signing of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol, which was imposed on Ecuador at a time when part of its territory was occupied by Peruvian military forces, the Foreign Ministry reiterates the position that the national government has permanently maintained in defense of Ecuador's rights over the Amazon region.

On reaffirming the rights that the nation has over the territories discovered and colonized with the effort and sacrifice of its people, rights established in indisputable historical and legal titles, the Foreign Ministry reiterates its decision to find a peaceful solution that, within the framework of justice and fairness, will permit Peru and Ecuador to overcome their territorial problem in a definite and honorable way.

On this occasion, Ecuador reaffirms the position it has adopted in recent UN general assemblies, the OAS, the meetings of the Nonaligned Movement and other international forums in which it has brought up the territorial problem and has repeatedly urged Peru to find a solution.

The lack of a solution of this dispute affects the normal development of relations between the two peoples, it affects hemispheric solidarity and harmony, it is a cause of permanent tension, and it prevents the two countries from concentrating greater efforts and resources on the solution of their respective domestic problems and the full development that the present generations demand and that we are dutybound to guarantee to future generations.

OPEC MEETING, GALINDO ACTIVITIES REPORTED

PA281526 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] The acting natural resources minister has described as a partial failure the latest OPEC meeting at which the oil production ceiling was lowered from 18.5 million barrels to 17.5 million barrels a day. In addition, OPEC failed to reach an agreement on each country's quota and left prices in the hands of buyers through the free interplay of supply and demand.

The acting minister discussed the effect of these events on this country:

[Begin recording] Minister Gustavo Galindo, within the strategy prepared for such an eventuality, implemented an aggressive policy for the placement, sales and marketing of our oil. Hence the minister, went to Taiwan immediately after the OPEC meeting. He will then go on to the ROK and Japan. It is part of the strategy developed by the minister and me to implement a policy of emphasizing medium- and long-term oil sales because it is obvious that short-term spot sales are not advantageous for us due to our relatively low storage capacity.

Basically, gentlemen, these are the consequences that we face on the market because of the OPEC decision. In any case, we are not surprised by the meeting's results. As I indicated previously, the minister had foreseen this possibility and adopted an aggressive policy for placing our oil on the international market. [end recording]

The acting minister also stressed that Ecuador has not lowered its production ceiling, which is still 225,000 barrels a day. Our price is still $32.50 per barrels, although the price might slide, as it has already begun to do on a world level.

ROLDOCIST MOVEMENT GRANTED PARTY STATUS

PA210407 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jan 83

[Excerpt] The supreme electoral tribunal has announced that the Ecuadorean Roldocist Movement [Movimiento Roldocista Ecuatoriano] has been officially granted political party status. Abdala Bucaram is the new party's president.

BRIEFS

PRIVATE SECTOR FOREIGN DEBT -- The Central Bank of Ecuador reported that the private sector foreign debt is $1.7 billion, of which $420 million must be paid with dollars at the official rate of 33 sucres per dollar, $580 million at 35.50 sucres per dollar, and $700 million with free market dollars. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 Jan 83 PA]

BELAUNDE SAYS TRAGIC EVENT 'HAS OVERWHELMED US'

On Journalists' Murder

PY311932 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde has deplored the killing of eight journalists who were murdered while working in the Ayacucho region. The president announced that a rigorous investigation will be conducted in order to determine responsibility for the killings.

[Begin Belaunde recording] As I did last Sunday, I am very sorry to [words indistinct] asking everybody to stand up and observe 1 minute of silence as a tribute to the journalists killed in the vicinity of Uchuraraccay.

As you will understand, I must first refer to this tragic event, which has overwhelmed us here since 1900 hours, when we were informed about it. I must refer to it not only because of the loss of human lives but also because of the task those journalists were undertaking and because, for some years, i had engaged in specialized reporting. [words indistinct] the dead journalists, many of whom at one time or another were in this room. But we deplore the event even further because they were young persons who had parents, brothers, wives and many children. To all of them I convey my deepest feelings of solidarity.

As for the event itself, there is nothing much I can add to what the respective communiques have already reported, especially the one released to the media by Gen Roberto Noel, who acts as supervisor. All other reports are mere speculation. I can obviously conclude that this has been another tragic incident in the long list of disappointing and painful events we have endured in this unfortunate fratricidal struggle which has been initiated in Ayacucho and neighboring provinces.

As you will recall, I have made repeated appeals to reason. Upon the start of the operation, I set a 72-hour deadline for attaining a peaceful settlement. Not only have guerrillas rejected that offer but some have [words indistinct] which I would call tragic irony. We will study the possibility that we may launch similar appeals in due time.

It is clear that the eight dead journalists did not report their trip to the military authorities. They were fulfilling their task in order to serve the people through the press. Their trip undoubtedly involved serious risk. Journalists run risks almost every day, not only because of (?the agents of) violence, but also because of transportation difficulties, which i also had to experience on several occasions. I would not like to pass judgment on the event, but it is clear that a fight took place and that it resulted in the death of the journalists. [end recording]

Command Reports Investigation

PY311451 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Communique issued by the Command of the Security Area in the Central Region]

[Text] The command of the Security Area in the Central Region hereby reports the following: 1) on 30 January, in compliance with legal regulations, the district attorney, the trial judge, and expert in medical forensics and police identification (?personnel) traveled to the village of Uchuraccay in order to confirm the events that were reported through communique No 01 and 02 issued by this command on the disappearance of eight journalists.

2) Newspaper representatives, police officers and security personnel also attended the [word indistinct], with the purpose of observing, investigating and cooperating with the authorities. 3) Upon the arrival of some legislatures, the chairman of the Peruvian Journalists' Association, (?Church) representatives, directors of national newspapers and magazazines, radio and television reporters and cameramen, correspondents and reporters of the various newspapers and magazines in the city of Ayacucho, a press conference was hosted by the command of the emergency area, with the purpose of reporting on the events. 4) The authorities have been able to identify the victims. They are Jorge Mendivil and Willy Retto Torres of the newspaper EL OBSERVADOR, Eduardo de la Piniela (Palau) and Pedro Sanchez Gavidia of MARCA magazine, Sergio Sedano Falcon of the newspaper LA REPUBLICA, Amador Garcia Yanque of OIGA magazine, Felix Cavilan of EL DIARIO and Antonio Infante Garcia, of the Ayacucho newspaper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS. 5) The command of the emergency area has provided the corresponding [word indistinct] so that the press may fulfill its duties and properly report the deplorable events which have taken place. 5) Following a decision by the trial judge, the journalists' bodies were taken to the city of Ayacucho in order to comply with legal requirements. 7) The command of the emergency area hereby conveys its condolences to the relatives of the dead journalists, to the presidency of the Peruvian Journalists' Association and to media reporters.

Lima, 30 January 1983. [Signed] By Public Relations Office of the Ayacucho Emergency Area.

Havana Reports Nine Dead

PA311435 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Nine Peruvian reporters who had been trying to interview leaders of the armed clandestine organization Shining Path in Ayacucho Department were found dead in an area controlled by the Peruvian Armed Forces and police. According to an official report, the bodies of the reporters -- seven of whom worked for newspapers in Lima and two of whom worked for Ayacucho newspapers -- were found in an area near the village of Uchuraccay. On Sunday the bodies will be transferred to Lima.

On Saturday it was reported that four reporters and photographers for the opposition newspapers EL OBSERVADOR, LA REPUBLICA and MARCA MAGAZINE had disappeared in the Peruvian department of Ayacucho, where they had gone without authorization into the Uchuraccay area.

GOVERNMENT'S ANTITERRORIST CAMPAIGN TIGHTENED

PY281613 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] (? In an attempt to intensify) the antiterrorist campaign the police forces have sent 600 members of the Civil Guard to various areas of Ayacucho Department.

The members of the Civil Guard will be distributed in key spots of the varous districts which are considered as areas of intense terrorist actions.

Police sources disclosed that Civil Guards have been taken to Huanca, Cangallo, (Vischonogo) and other cities being shaken by the terrorists violence and that they all carry modern long-range weapons with telescopic lenses which can even be used in the dark.

Peasants Kill Terrorists

PY282003 Paris AFP in Spanish 1716 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Lima, 28 Jan (AFP) -- Peasants of the Peruvian department of Ayacucho killed two Shining Path terrorists, according to press reports learned today in Lima. The military Political Command has not yet confirmed those reports. This command, established in the city of Ayacucho, southeast of Lima, reported yesterday, Thursday, that 17 extremists died in a clash with the police that lasted several hours.

Asked about the report of the lynching of two more Shining Path terrorists in the community of Carhua Upan, the head of the command said that he had sent a group of policemen there to verify the report and protect the peasants.

The press report states that 2 days ago the members of the community detained the extremists who were armed and handed them over to the civilian authorities of Huaychau who ordered their execution. It was reported that the extremists were immediately beaten and stoned to death in the plaza by the villagers who then buried the bodies. Not long ago seven other terrorists were executed in Huaychau.

In another town of Ayachucho department, five more Shining Path members were lynched over the past weekend, so that if the latest episode is confirmed, the extremists killed by the peasants now total 14.

BELAUNDE VOICES SUPPORT FOR INTERIOR MINISTER

PY312100 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] President Belaunde yesterday voiced his support for Interior Minister Fernando Rincon concerning the judicial branch decision authorizing Chilean citizen Hernan Liberona to return to Peru. Liberona is said to have been illegally deported from Peru by the Interior Ministry.

President Belaunde made this statement during his usual Sunday press conference. Here are President Belaunde's words in this regard:

[Begin Belaunde recording] Minister Rincon has my confidence and he will continue to occupy his post unless a motion of censure is lodged against him in April, something which I doubt will happen. [passage indistinct]

The constitution grants special immunities to the interior minister. Minister Rincon can only be brought by the Chamber of Deputies. This is provided for in the Constitution. I will always have confidence in the ministers of my cabinet. [passage indistinct] (?Engineer) Rincon has and will continue to have my confidence because of his personal traits, professional qualifications and his services to the party and to the (?City). [end recording]

HAVANA ON 'POLICE REPRESSION' OF MINERS MARCH

PA291738 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] It was reported in Lima that the Peruvian police repression against a miners march in downtown Lima left a toll of 18 injured, some with bullet wounds, two deputies were also injured.

The report adds that the police violently repelled the march of miners from the (Caridad), (Cara), Acari and Canaria mines. The miners were demanding the payment of back wages due and job stability.

According to labor leaders, the police did not take into consideration that the miners were accompanied by their wives and children; consequently several children were injured.

Rincon Blamed for Incident

PA290148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] The Peruvian Communist Party [PCP] has vigorously condemend the police repression against the miners who were marching to the Government Palace to present to President Fernando Belaunde Terry a list of demands. The violent police action led to the wounding of 22 people, including two legislators. The PCP said that the police action shows a conscious process of government repression that seeks to halt the masses' repudiation of the policy of hunger, unemployment, capitualtion and corruption. The Peruvian Communists urged all workers to support the nationwide miners strike on 7-9 February.

The Federation of Banking Employees issued a communique demanding the resignation of Interior Minister Fernando Rincon, whom it blames for the police action against the demonstrating miners.

Peruvian leaders and legislators have sent a letter to Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone demanding guarentees for the life of (Ricardo Aguilar), a leader of the Peronist Montonero Movement, who was kidnapped in Buenos Aires in December by agents of the security forces. It is evident, the message stated, that the life and security of the prisoner are in your hands and those of Interior Minister Llamil Reston; therefore, we demand that he be immediately brought forward and released. The letter to Bignone added that the kidnapping of (Aguilar) violates the most basic human rights and is incompatible with the process of democratication that the Argentine military government has promised. The signers of the message include Alfonso Barrantes, president of the United Leftist Coalition; Alan Garcia, secretary general of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance]; Jorge del Prado, leader of the PCP; and Senator (Gaston Acurias) of the ruling Popular Action Party.

The Lima Superior Court today will hear the case of Hernan Liberona, who was expelled from Peru a few days ago despite the fact that an examining judge had declared admissible a habeas corpus appeal in favor of the Chilean exile. The Lima Bar Association said that the Interior Ministry violated the judge's order and constitutional and legal principles in force in the country. After indicating that the examining judge did not cancel the habeas corpus, the Bar Association demanded that the public prosecutor begin legal actions in view of this violation of the law. The lawyers' proposal entails the opening of a trial that could involve Interior Minister Fernando Rincon, whose decision to expel the Chilean exile has been widely criticized in the country.

FIVE KILLED BY HEAVY RAINS IN CHICLAYO

PY281600 Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Excerpt] A sudden heavy rain which fell for some 6 hours caused damages in Chiclayo where 5 people were killed by a landslide, 120 houses in the shanty towns collapsed and another 600 were badly damaged.

SILVA-HERZOG ENDS SPANISH VISIT, FLIES TO JAPAN

FL311915 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1915 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Madrid, 30 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Secretary of Finance Jesus Silva-Herzog today concluded his visit to Spain and departed for Tokyo. Before leaving for the Japanese capital, Silva-Herzog asserted that his visit to Madrid was "extraordinarily cordial and friendly" and expressed satisfaction over "the confidence which exists in the world community over Mexico's future."

He said that during his stay in Madrid he had reextended "the standing invitation of the Mexican Government and people" to have Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez visit Mexico as soon as possible. During his stay in Spain, Silva-Herzog met with Felipe Gonzalez and with the highest authorities of Spain's state and private financial institutes.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO GUATEMALAN INCURSION

Break of Relations Viewed

FL010230 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0133 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 31 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The Foreign Relations Commission of the Chamber of Deputies will ask the Mexican Government to break diplomatic relations with Guatemala if that country continues to violate the sovereignty of the national territory, Deputy Luis Danton Rodriguez asserted.

The president of that commission said the republic's government will be asked to take drastic measures to prevent acts violating Mexican territory on the border with Guatemala.

Danton Rodriguez said the commission had called on the authorities to increase military vigilance on the southern border and condemned Guatemalan military actions in that Mexican region.

Investigation Launched

PA010146 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City -- The Mexican Government has ordered an investigation of the incursion by Guatemalan troops into Mexican territory that was revealed this week, during which four Guatemalan refugees were killed and others were kidnapped.

An official government communique released in Mexico City on Saturday confirmed the acts of aggression committed by the Guatemalan Army and reported that the Defense Secretariat has taken the necessary steps to guarantee the security of the Guatemalan refugees who are in Mexican territory, estimated to number 100,000.

Guatemalan Explanations 'Unacceptable'

PA010433 Paris AFP in Spanish 2116 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Guatemalan troops burst into Mexican territory last night, some 50 meters from the border, to demand that some 300 Guatemalan peasants who have taken refuge in Mexico be turned over to them, the newspaper ULTIMAS NOTICIAS DE EXCELSIOR reported in this capital.

A special correspondent's report from the border state of Chiapas citing Jose de Maria Lobo, a member of the Guatemalan Committee for Refugees in Mexico, as its source of information states that the incursion took place on a ranch called El Pedernal, in the municipality of La Trinitaria.

According to this report, the Guatemalan soldiers came in a helicopter. Eight of them shouted death threats and threatened to set the place on fire if the refugees were not turned over to them, but they left a little later when the ranchowners asked the Mexican authorities to intervene.

A similar incursion in another area of the border was recently confirmed by the Secretariat of the Interior. It took place on 26 January and four Guatemalan refugees were killed and one was kidnapped as a result.

Newspaper reports indicated that Guatemalan soldiers were involved in this action as well, but an official statement blames it on some 100 unidentified people in civilian clothes, "who presumably came from Guatemalan territory."

An editorial also in today's newspaper said that "under no circumstances can Mexico continue to permit the increasingly frequent violations of its territory by Guatemalan Army troops pursuing those who flee from the outrages committed by unpopular governments."

"Guatemala's ridiculous explanations and denials of the incursions by its troops, which are in violation of our country's sovereignty, are unacceptable," the paper concluded.

CABINET STUDIES WORLD OIL MARKET PROBLEMS

FL271435 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 27 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid yesterday met with members of his economic cabinet at the National Palace to study the problems related to world oil prices and the progress of the program launched to protect jobs and productive factories.

Following the meeting, it was announced that Mexico will take no actions which may contribute to any decline in the world oil market.

Miguel Gonzalez Avelar, leader of the Senate, said yesterday that the situation "we are experiencing today proves that Mexico's decision to forgo joining OPEC at this time was correct."

EL SALVADOR

LOCAL FORCES RESIST FMLN ATTACK ON BERLIN

PA010140 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] At 0500 yesterday, FMLN forces launched a strong attack on Berlin, a quiet and peaceful town in Usulutan Department, 113 km east of San Salvador. The attack came from all sides of the town, as a result of which the 15,000 residents have not been able to leave their homes since the fighting began. The water supply and electricity have been out since last night.

Reports indicate that the FMLN forces attacked the suburbs of Berlin for about an hour on Saturday night, attacking Berlin itself at 0500 the next morning. We still do not know if the town has fallen to the rebels.

Reports from Berlin say that the National Guard, the police and civil defense members are fighting the rebels and that military reinforcements had still not arrived as of this afternoon. The same source indicated that the rebels have surrounded Berlin and that the only casualties so far have been two civil defense members.

In the meantime, Red Cross units are using loudspeakers to warn the people to stay in their homes. Local authorities in Berlin have told this station that the rebels have advanced to the center of the town, but that the local forces are putting up resistance.

The Red Cross, Green Cross and other organizations have reported that 21 have been killed in the fighting. Most were innocent civilians from the San Jose neighborhood of Berlin's south side.

The same sources said that 6 of the 21 are FMLN guerrillas who were killed near the general cemetery and the regional hospital in Berlin.

It has also been reported that 15 civilians were admitted to the hospital with wounds. Those who were in very serious condition were taken to the Santiago de Maria health center.

Other reports indicate that the municipal market and some downtown and neighborhood stores in Berlin were looted during the fighting, which was still raging during the night in various sectors of the town.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Claims Control of Berlin

PA010402 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Attention, much attention: The FMLN has absolute control over the city of Berlin, in Usulutan Department. We repeat, our revolutionary army has totally taken over the city of Berlin, in Usulutan Department. Members of the Rafael Arce Sabla Brigade in the southeastern part of the country achieved total control over the city of Berlin at 1140 hours of this victorious 31 January.

We repeat, today, 31 January, revolutionary forces gained absolute control over the city of Berlin.

So far, initial reports indicate that our revolutionary forces have inflicted numerous casualties in these bloody clashes with the dictatorship.

Initial reports sent to Radio Venceremos from Berlin state that our forces have captured 22 national policemen.

In addition, reports from Berlin, today under the people's control, also indicate that the dictatorship suffered numerous casualties when trying to reinforce its soldiers besieged in Berlin. FMLN forces ambushed a reinforcement outpost on the Pan-American Highway from Mercedes Umaya to Berlin, inflicting numerous casualties on the dictatorship.

Meanwhile, FMLN forces ambushed additional army reinforcements coming from the south toward Berlin on the Alegria-Berlin route, inflicting numerous casualties on the dictatorship. In other words, in these actions -- the taking over of the city of Berlin and ambushes on reinforcements -- the dictatorship has suffered a large number of casualties, which we will report to our people on our next transmission. In addition, we will report on the large amount of rifles, ammunition and war materiel we recovered at the Berlin garrison.

FMLN Threatens Green Cross

PA311445 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Attention, attention. Here is last-minute information received by Radio Venceremos from Usulutan Department. Attention, attention. The FMLN reports that in Berlin, Usulutan Department, invididuals wearing Green Cross uniforms have been picking up the Army's dead and wounded. More seriously, they have been removing the weapons of Army soldiers, thereby violating the principles of neutrality of the institution to which they belong, because they are helping the army to cover up the casualties caused by our forces and are taking away the weapons that belong to our people.

In view of this situation, the FMLN has decided that these individuals may be members of the army using the uniform of an international humanitarian organization to carry out these tasks. For this reason, we will be olbiged to open fire if this situation continues, because we cannot permit such things to take place.

HAVANA RADIO REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Clashes in Morazan

PA302100 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] FMLN forces of El Salvador attacked Ciudad Barrios and Cacaotera, in Morazan Department, where sources close to the genocidal regime admitted that bloody fighting continued.

Radio Venceremos, official voice of the FMLN, said that in the past 24 hours the guerrilla forces inflicted heavy casualties on the special battalions of the Salvadoran Army trained in the United States, trying to drive the rebels from their positions in Morazan.

The radio station added that the Salvadoran Army offensive has been supported by the air force, but that their indiscriminate attacks, directed mainly against the civilian population, have not seriously damaged the guerrilla forces.

Other dispatches reported that for 2 hours rebel commands occupied the town of Tonacatepeque, 15 km from San Salvador, inflicting 12 casualties on the government forces and taking 2 prisoners. The same dispatches also report combat in at least 12 communities in the Departments of Usulutan, Chalatenango and Morazan.

FMLN Occupies La Palma

PA311326 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Radio Venceremos, the official FMLN radio station, has reported that the guerrillas have recaptured the town of La Palma, Chalatenango Department. The town is a strategic point on the line of communications between San Salvador and Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital. The same source reported that patriotic forces control the city of Berlin, the second most important city in Usulutan Department, and that the local garrison has been surrounded by rebels.

War bulletins state that the guerrillas are strong in northern Usulutan, and add that the patriotic groups in the Morazan area are receiving important reinforcements. In Morazan the rebels halted the Salvadoran regime's offensive near the town of Jocoaitique. Eyewitness reports state that the Salvadoran Air Force is carrying out continuous and indiscriminate bombings on the war fronts, causing many casualties among rural residents.

GUATEMALA

MILITARY CHIEF ON POSSIBLE DELAY IN U.S. AID

PA301337 Guatemala City DIARIO EL GRAFICO in Spanish 28 Jan 83 p 8

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Jan -- The possibility that the United States might withhold the military aid that it has offered to Guatemala because of a U.S. citizen's detention and his trial by special courts, would indeed affect our country, Gen Hector Mario Lopez Fuentes, chief of the Army General Staff, commented today.

The high-ranking military officer, who was interviewed after the dedication ceremony at Plaza Confucio, added that although he has not been officially notified of a U.S. State Department protest over the detention of Michael Glen Earnest, a denial of military aid would indeed affect our country.

On the other hand, General Lopez Fuentes added, we have already gone 5 years without U.S. military aid and undoubtedly we could continue without it. We want to be allowed to work freely in order to bring about progress for all.

He added that Israel is one of Guatemala's loyal friends and has continuously provided aid, while other nations often withdraw their support because of U.S. pressures.

Further on, the high-ranking military officer said that the detention of the two foreigners [U.S. citizen Earnest and Spanish citizen Maria Magdalena Monteverde] will not affect our country's international relations. Both of them will probably be set free as a result of the trials currently underway in the special courts.

Controlled Subversion

General Lopez Fuentes then said that subversion is under control. He added that the army has managed to establish peace throughout the country.

Although he admitted that the army is not invulnerable and has sustained casualties in its struggle against subversion, he explained that subversion is now under control, thus averting the danger that previously existed. We already know who is causing the problems and where the subversive attacks are coming from, he said in conclusion.

PRESIDENT RIOS MONTT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE TO PEOPLE

PA292232 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Special message to the Guatemalan people from President Efrain Rios Montt, speaking in Guatemala City -- live]

[Text] I wish to apologize to you, in that I have probably interrupted one of your favorite programs. However, I feel that it is my duty to keep you abreast of events.

I am aware that most of the newspapers and radio newscasts are keeping you up to date on the world's economic problem. Nevertheless, in the international context, the impact of Latin America's debt is serious and the economic and financial problems in underdeveloped nations like our Guatemala have grown even more complex. This is because the issue of our economic, financial, political and social underdevelopment has been thrown out of context by a number of other factors.

For instance, social imbalance has increased. Collective demoralization reached such an extreme during the previous administration that we were in a virtual state of war and lived (?under) repressive systems. They maintained a state of terror, but credibility in their institutions was lost. There was a complete breakdown in the most important and responsible economic sectors.

Naturally, this situation affected life as a whole. Then, on 23 March 1983, our movement grew up because of the goals that were pursued. We are restoring the nation's moral and civic values; we are rebuilding the foundations of the (?nation's) economy and are laying the fundamental groundwork, the basics, the principles that will lead our people toward genuine democracy.

Within the context of the 23 March 1982 movement, attention was focused on four important aspects. The first was to revamp public finances. The second was to attend to social problems in troubled areas. The third was to reshape the monetary, exchange and credit policy and the last, a consequences of the others, was to fight corruption.

In the economic and financial sphere, public spending has been rationalized, permitting us to save 240 million quetzales, mostly by eliminating monstrous projects under the cover of which highly corrupt deals were made [words indistinct].

Furthermore, the modified internal debt has been consolidated, revenue collection has been improved and the urban transport subsidy has been eliminated. Credit resources for production activities have been expanded through the Bank of Guatemala, a guarantee fund has been created and bank interest rates have been reduced. All of this has been done to promote a reactivation of production.

As for our scant foreign exchange, we had to limit imports and restrict tourism expenses. As a result of these measures, we have maintained the parity of the quetzal.

In the social area, we have supported the groups that were displaced by violence. In our own way, we have aided over 60,000 people in the Departments of Solola, Quiche, Huehuetenango, Alta Verapaz and Chimaltenango.

A systematic fight against corruption was undertaken, for the previous administration, in one project alone, had committed the country to a loan of $108 million. As a result of our negotiations, we will now have to pay $74 million. How do you feel about this deal?

We might label it the theft of the century; but no, it is not really the theft of the century, though the avarice of those involved stabbed the homeland in the back. We now have to pay $74 million and for what purpose, I wonder? [Words indistinct] and the tribunals continue to work.

Despite our efforts and your sacrifice, there was a decline in production activity in 1982 when compared to 1981. Our balance of payments showed a deficit of $350 million. A [word indistince] of $414 million was accumulated and by 31 December 1982 our reserves had dropped to an availability level of $24 million.

In the area of public finances, the deficit totaled $415 million. Thus, we decided that it was not enough simply to reduce our expenses; we also had to revise the tax system.

As a result of this decline in our economic activity, unemployment rose by 50 percent compared to 1981. We realize that we must create the necessary conditions to raise our standard of living, since almost 35 percent, perhaps even 40 percent, of our citizens live in extreme poverty and need food, work, health, education and housing. In a word, they require human dignity.

I have already said that social crises are the responsibility of both the public or government sector and the private popular sector. In this case, you are [words indistinct]. In order to define this situation, we are currently holding talks with private sector representatives to establish a way for them to share with the government the actions involved in and the cost of overcoming the current crisis. We are already reaching an agreement with representatives of various private sector groups on their portion of the responsibility for and cooperation in our economic reactivation. You must remember, however, that man is the most important element and that you, therefore -- yes, you -- should participate in this reactivation with your efforts, your courage, your intelligence, your character and your good will. Guatemala is you. Its problems, its limitations, its debts, its solvency, all of this is Guatemala and you are Guatemala, even if [words indistinct] priorities and remain honorable, so we can come out of this crisis with flying colors.

With your cooperation, we are setting the following goals: We are providing support for both agriculture and ranching, so that we may more easily meet our domestic needs and export that which we cannot use. In the highlands, 14 million quetzales will be used to diversity the crops. Actions to expand production and to improve yields will be agreed on with agricultural producers. Negotiations will be conducted to increase export quotas and we will strive to obtain new markets.

The production of all kinds of stock will be promoted and an animal health program will be implemented. Reforestation will be bolstered, not only as a means of improving the environment but also as a way of creating jobs.

In the industrial sector, we are establishing incentives to diversity exports, especially agro-industrial and manufactured exports. We will agree with that sector on how to channel financial resources, as well as on ways of improving quality and increasing production. I admit that 185 enterprises closed in 1982, but we are interested in reactivating this important activity and we will pursue this policy.

In the construction sector, housing will be given priority. Bandesa [The National Development Bank] will receive resources with which to support rural housing, as will the [acronym indistinct], so that it can carry out programs for families with incomes of less than 150 quetzales per month. We will also provide financing for the national mortgage credit, so that it can conduct housing programs for families with incomes above 250 quetzales.

Those cooperatives and organized groups seeking to implement housing programs will receive special perquisites when they execute such programs.

In tourism, we will continue to promote Guatemala's image, so as to at least maintain last year's revenue level [words indistinct]. But listen to me carefully: If you want to take a vacation, I would like to invite you to get to know the most beautiful country in the world. I hope you have the chance to visit Guatemala, so that you can see the blessings that God has bestowed on us.

In the financial sector, we will maintain control over foreign exchange until we achieve balanced conditions. Credit for production sectors will be increased. Interest rates on guaranteed sums will be reduced to 1 percent; at present it is 35 percent. Thus we will make the guarantee fund for agricultural activity more positive.

We will maintain strict control to ensure rational public spending. We will insist that taxes be paid. We will review the tax system and we will consider the possibility of exempting products for export.

In order to encourage community participation in the development process, the government will place financing and technical assistance at the communities' disposal for the projects in which they are participating.

We are aware of the government's objective: National security, and the well-being and development of the people. I would like the following to be kept in mind: We are aware of our responsibilities and we also realize that our obligation is not toward a political party, but toward everyone, toward Guatemala itself. Therefore, we want to set an example of comportment, in order to make something solid for a new Guatemala, for our Guatemalan nationality.

I have faith in God and I expect that our situation will improve. Let us be humble and dignified. Let us be loyal. If we behave this way, he will love us and will give us prosperity and peace. May He hear us. Thank you.

SUBVERSIVES DESTROY REGISTRIES OF 47 TOWNS

PA312038 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Jan 83 pp 8, 56

[Excerpts] The civil registries of 47 municipalities throughout the republic have been destroyed by subversives; hence, an emergency procedure is being studied to allow residents to replace their identity documents, Jorge Serrano Elias, president of the State Council, said yesterday.

A commission of members of the State Council is studying a draft law on ways to replace the civil registry books that were destroyed in acts of violence and to make it possible for citizens to obtain replacement birth certificates. The draft law also considers the cases of missing persons, cases in which it is not known whether the individual is alive or dead. Representatives of ethnic group have brought these problems to the attention of the State Council.

"The problem," Serrano said, "is not only a matter of replacing birth certificates, but of identifying persons who were not registered and often do not even know their date of birth.

Registers That Were Destroyed

The municipalities whose civil registries were destroyed are: Fraijanes in Guatemala Department; Tecpan Guatemala and Santa Cruz Balanya in Chimaltenango; San Andres Sementabaj and Nahualtate in Solola; and Santa Lucia la Reforma in Totonicapan.

In Huehuetenango there are Malacatancito, Nenton, San Pedro Necta, Soloma, Ixtahuacan la Independencia, San Rafael Independencia, San Miguel Acatan, Todos Santos, Santa Eulalia, San Juan Atitlan, Colotenango, San Mateo Ixtatan, Concepcion, San Juan Ixcoy, San Antonio Huista, San Sebastian Huista, San Rafael, San Gaspar Ixil and Santiago Chimaltenango.

In addition, there are Zacualpa, Chichicastenango, San Bartolome, Canilla and Sacapulas in El Quiche; San Miguel Chijaj, Cubulco and Chol in Baja Verapaz; Lanquin in Alta Veraraz; and Santa Ana in Peten.

GOVERNMENT TO 'UPHOLD' LAW IN TERRORISM CASE

PA292110 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Through a press communique released yesterday afternoon, the Guatemalan Government states that it seeks to uphold the law and rejects demands which are contrary to the basic legal principles and rules of any civilized nation. It states that the tribunals will act sternly and in keeping with the existing laws.

The official government communique reports that foreigners Spanish citizen Maria Magdalena Monteverde Ascanio and U.S. citizen Michael Glen Earnest have been remanded to special courts. They are accused of participating in subversive activities.

The communique adds that therefore, the summary proceedings in this case are underway. Testimony is being heard from witnesses and documents that serve as evidence for or against the accused are being compiled. The special court is handling this case in the normal way prescribed by existing laws and will be the one to make the final decision on the legal status of the two persons who are being arraigned, as occurs in any civilized nation, the government communique adds.

The official communique adds that the two foreigners are detained at the installations of the II Police Corps and have not been deprived of legal defense. The communique indicates that the defense counsels have been granted the facilities necessary to do their jobs. The consuls of the accused's countries have talked to them and their physical integrity has been respected at all times. If progress in the case is normal, the hearing will begin around the middle of next week.

Death Penalty for 10

PA300102 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] The two cases assigned to the special courts have reached a hiatus, given the interruption in work caused by the weekend. Since today is Saturday and tomorrow Sunday, nothing will be done on the two cases, newsman Gonzalo Asturias, secretary of public relations, stated last night.

Until at 1800 last evening, a resolution was expected from the courts on the two foreigners who were arrested and on those who have been sentenced to death, but it was never issued. The weekend interruption favors the three who are under a death sentence, because it means that the final sentence, following their appeal, will not be handed down until next week. Thus, the confirmation of the death sentence passed by the court will be postponed, giving them a few more days to live. It does great harm to U.S. citizen Earnest and the Spaniard Valverde, however, because their defense counsels hoped that they would be released on Friday. This was not done and they will therefore have to stay in prison for at least 2 more days.

Meanwhile, it was learned yesterday that the number of people who have been sentenced to death has increased to 10, since 7 more have been given the death sentence by the special courts.

The cases are isolated rather than related, involving separate crimes. Those who have been sentenced to death are Juan Daniel Aldana Escobar, Alfonso Bonilla Chacon, Fernando Contreras y Contreras, Eleobardo Alvarez, Honduran Marco Antonio Gonzalez and Indians Carlos Subuyi and Pedro Baxon.

The case of the Honduran Gonzalez is still under investigation, the secretary of public relations stated yesterday, in view of his status and because it is being said that he just recently entered the country. However, he added, we cannot offer any conjecture, because it is up to the authorities now.

TWO GUERRILLA CAMPS FOUND; EIGHT KILLED IN CLASH

PA302001 Paris AFP in Spanish 1640 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 30 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported here today that Guatemalan security forces have discovered a guerrilla hideout in the town of Villa Nueva, Guatemala Department. A woman's body was found there. Eight guerrillas and one soldier were killed yesterday in Nenton, Huehuetenango Department, during an armed clash when a patrol located an insurgent training camp.

A military report gave only the aliases used by four of the guerrillas who fell in combat, according to the residents. The report added that the guerrillas fled "toward a neighboring country" that could be none other than Mexico, stressing that this "prevented further pursuit by government forces."

Yesterday the security forces found a guerrilla hideout in Villa Nueva, 20 km west of Guatemala City. A woman's body with several bullet wounds in the head was found there. The cause of the crime was not determined.

In Guatemala City and in several towns of western Guatemala and in the last few days in Concepcion Chiquirichapa and San Juan Ostuncalco, the security forces, principally the army, have been carrying out search operations.

In the last four weeks, Guatemalan guerrilla activity has increased, but it has not yet returned to the pre-November 1981 level when the army carried out a large offensive in the country's western highlands. High-ranking military chiefs insist that the insurgents' actions "are sporadic" and that the situation throughout the country is "under control."

ORPA REPORTS ON 1 JAN OPERATION, RESULTS

PA301357 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] A guerrilla group, comprised of member of Guatemala's ORPA [Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization], wiped out a military detachment traveling in a truck on 1 January, it was announced in San Jose, the Costa Rican capital. The vehicle was completely destroyed.

According to an ORPA communique, 15 Galil rifels from Israel, some 4,000 rounds of ammunition, hand grenades and other war materiel were seized during this operation. The communique adds that a soldier was captured and released after the reasons for the people's struggle in Guatemala were explained to him.

REBELS JAM RADIO ISTMANIA, BROADCAST MESSAGE

PA281835 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] A clandestine group jammed Radio Istmania's signal this afternoon, overriding it with antigovernment messages read by a woman. Security forces hurried to the station, believing that it had been occupied, but it was later established that the station's signal had been covered by a portable transmitter.

HONDURAS

ARMY DENIES VENCEREMOS 'BOMBING' CHARGE

PA290206 Paris AFP in Spanish 0028 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Jan (AFP) -- The Honduran Army today denied "emphatically that the Honduran Air Force had bombed positions of the Salvadoran guerrillas in Salvadoran territory."

Radio Venceremos, radio station of the Salvadoran rebels, made this charge last night, stating that on Thursday morning two A-37 aircraft from Honduras had attacked its positions and later returned to Honduras.

Capt Carlos Acosta, public relations officer of the Armed Forces, said that there is no official knowledge regarding the station's charge.

The officer stressed that "Honduras will never commit an act that violates nonintervention, respect for states and the self-determination of the peoples."

"It is absurd to think that Honduras has bombed Salvadoran territory," he said, adding that Radio Venceremos "is not credible and operates clandestinely. If it was a legally authorized station, the charge would be investigated, but what was reported is absurd and preposterous," he insisted.

According to Captain Acosta, the Honduran Armed Forces are "maintaining vigilance at the border to protect national sovereignty and security."

The Salvadoran rebel station had also charged that Honduran troops based in the city of Marcala, north of Morazan, disembarked in Juriguara and entered Salvadoran territory, crossing at El Tisate in their attempt to encircle the FMLN forces, who are facing a new military counteroffensive in their country.

The Honduran Army has been accused on various occasions of collaborating with their Salvadoran colleagues when they stage offensives on the border between the two countries, where the guerrillas are maintaining strong positions.

Official Communique on Charges

PA291303 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1158 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] The Honduran Government terms as ridiculous the charges by the rebels' Radio Venceremos that the Honduran Army is actively supporting the Salvadoran Army's operation against the rebels. Here is the Honduran Government's official communique which denies any such participation by the Honduran Army and terms such charges ridiculous.

The document states. The Honduran Government tonight termed ridiculous and absurd the charges by Salvadoran guerrillas that Honduran troops and planes were participating in combat to support the Salvadoran Army operations against the communist rebels of that country. According to an international dispatch, Honduran soldiers backed by air support, were helping the 6,000 Salvadoran soldiers fighting Marxist rebels in the Morazan Department.

FMLN's Radio Venceremos reported that two Honduran Air Force planes had attacked rebel positions in Morazan. The station said that this alleged Honduran intervention was not the first.

The Honduran Government reiterates its dedication to peace and its policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of its neighbors. The government emphatically denies that Honduran soldiers or planes had entered Salvadoran territory.

Whenever the Salvadoran Armed Forces have carried out operations against the guerrillas near the common border, Honduras has limited its actions to placing its troops near the Salvadoran border to prevent Salvadoran soldiers or communist rebels from entering its territory.

Honduras wants peace in Central America and it is working for the internationalization of peace on the isthmus. Honduras believes that the information released by Radio Venceremos is nothing more than part of the misinformation campaign which day by day is losing credibility.

[Issued] Tegucigalpa, Central District, 28 January 1983.

GOVERNMENT'S INVITATIONS TO MANEUVERS UNANSWERED

PA281840 Paris AFP in Spanish 2140 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 27 Jan -- The Central American countries have not accepted the invitation to participate as observers in the joint military maneuvers to be staged by the Honduran and U.S. armies in February, Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica announced here. Costa Rica and Nicaragua have rejected the invitation, it was indicated, while El Salvador, Guatemala and Panama have not responded.

Foreign Secretary Paz confirmed today that the exercises to be carried out by Hondurans and North Americans "will cost $5 million," but claimed that "our country will not contribute a single penny."

Paz explained that the maneuvers will be staged in the Mosquitia "because it is an uninhabited region," referring to protests by members of the Nicaraguan Government that the exercises are being held not far from their border. Thus far, the foreign secretary stated, no country in the area has answered the invitation of the Honduran Government, not even to send observers or watch the maneuvers.

When it was confirmed that the exercises would take place, Honduras sent invitations to the governments of Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvadro, Nicaragua, and Panama to send observers, "with the purpose of demosntrating the good faith of the Hondruan Government," the foreign secretary noted.

ARMY DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF RECRUITMENT REPORTS

PA292211 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Jan 83 p 32

[Excerpt] The Honduran Armed Forces' Public Relations Office yesterday denied knowledge of any recruitment of Hondurans by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups in the southern part of the country.

An Armed Forces spokesman said that "up to now (yesterday), no information on such activities has been received from the military detachment in that part of the country."

Meanwhile, an officer of the 11th Infantry Battalion of Choluteca told TIEMPO in a telephone interview that he had no report of the presence of foreign elements there.

These sources were consulted regarding reports from that part of the country that said Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries had recruited some residents from towns and villages near Namasigue.

Radio reports from Choluteca received in Tegucigalpa claimed that "elements opposed to the Nicaraguan regime constantly alarm the residents of the southern part of the country."

COMMUNIST LEADER MURDERED ON RETURN FROM CUBA

PA310420 Paris AFP in Spanish 2214 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 Jan (AFP) -- Herminio Deras, well-known Communist Party leader and labor adviser, was shot to death yesterday by alleged paramilitary bands and security agents, according to relatives. [sentence as received]

He was shot yesterday in Las Flores District of San Pedro Sula, 240 km north of Tegucigalpa, after being intercepted by three men and one woman driving automobiles.

Otilia Flores de Deras, the victim's widow, said that, according to eyewitnesses, the men tried to force Deras into one of the vehicles. When he resisted they stabbed him several times and then shot him seven times.

It has been reported that Deras, who had been operating underground, had recently returned from Cuba, where he had undergone medical checkups. The police said they will issue a report on the murder tomorrow.

PRESIDENT NOTES GOVERNMENT'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY

PA291357 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Speech by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova at luncheon in honor of the first anniversary of his administration, at the Honduran Air Force Club on 27 January -- recorded]

[Text] To pay tribute to the homeland, the altar before which we must say our civic prayers, must always be the obligation of every honest and responsible Honduran. On this occasion, and with the profound conviction of a man who loves Honduras, I would like to pay special tribute to my dear homeland, with all the force that comes from my spirit as a citizen, and with all the vigor that comes from my status as a ruler.

Today we are celebrating the first anniversary of the government over which I preside by will of the Honduran people. This is a highly significant development, as it represents the first year of a new government that took over the conduct of public power according to the will of the majority of our people, who exercised their right at the polls under the exemplary guarantee of the armed forces.

For this reason, this event fills me with profound satisfaction. I also experience deep emotion because we are commemorating this first anniversary in this center owned by the military institution. It is therefore a symbol of the Honduran soldier.

Within the framework of institutional professionalization for the collective service and benefit, Honduran soldiers will always be ready, without a minute's rest, to safeguard Honduran sovereignty and territorial integrity and to support and strengthen the pluralist democratic regime as a system of life and of government.

The path we have trod this year has been difficult. With determination, good faith and good will, we have confronted multiple and complex problems, as I already said in my report to congress on 25 January. We have acted with determination and invariable honesty and we will continue along this path. In order to satisfy the collective demands and the people's needs, it is essential to create and to consolidate a moral infrastructure enabling us to tread firmly along the path of economic development, political modernization and social transformation.

On this first anniversary of the government over which I preside, I also wish to exalt firmly the noble attributes of our people who, with hope, sacrifice and optimism, have given us their support because they share our desire to build a better Honduras, a Honduras worthy of our ancestors and of the succeeding generations.

Considering this idea of what Honduras is and what it should be, I wish to acknowledge those who have cooperated with my administration, who have helped me in the difficult tasks of leading and directing the country. I wish to express my gratitude to the armed forces, with whom we have marched fully identified, on behalf of the national interests and so that both justice and freedom may prevail.

On this first anniversary of my administration, which was forged by the people's will, I pray to God, our spiritual leader, that he may continue lighting our destiny and that he may give me courage, along with the necessary humility, to continue serving a Honduras that belongs to all Hondurans.

As a stateman here in our homeland so aptly wrote once, Honduras belongs to everyone, and all their merits, talents and virtues should fit into its wide bosom. Thank you very much.

General Alvarez Anniversary Remarks

PA291426 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Speech by Brig Gen Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez Martinez, armed forces chief, at luncheon in honor of the first anniversary of President Roberto Suazo Cordova's administration, at the Honduran Air Force Club on 27 January -- recorded]

[Text] As the highest representative of the armed forces, I have been honored to hear the president's statement, which has been addressed to his government, the Honduran people and the armed institution. I cannot remain silent in the face of the expressions of sincerity and recognition which, perhaps undeservedly, the president has made in connection with the armed forces.

Mr President, your sincere words in our support fill us with enthusiasm, give us moral support and further commit us as Honduran soldiers to our duties as part of your administration, endorsing the democratic effort that began on 27 January 1982. With great discernment, very good will and the true dedication of a Honduran citizen, you have tried to overcome the very serious problems that you found in the administration that you began a year ago on this day.

I would like to take advantage of this occasion, Mr President, to tell you that the armed forces are fully identified with your administration, as well as fully aware of our duty as soldiers and as Hondurans.

On the part of the armed forces, you will always find the support, the subordination and the loyalty to help you in your patriotic effort on behalf of our country and of the entire Honduran community.

Despite all that has happened, despite all that has transpired, the armed forces are trying to improve professionally. The armed forces are also trying to comply more fully with their responsibility to the Honduran people. We are aware of our duty and we are willing to fulfill this duty to the very last consequence for the benefit of our nation and of any action that means the improvement of Honduras and the well-being of the Honduran people.

Today, Mr President, on the first anniversary of your administration as chief of the executive branch, I wish to reiterate to you that as a part of your government subordinate to your role as general commander, the armed forces are willing to follow the path and to honor [words indistinct] the goals you have set for yourself to achieve the Honduran people's freedom, consolidate democracy and maintain our people's freedom and peace. We are with you, Mr President. The armed forces are at your disposal.

PEASANT FRONT CRITICIZES SUAZO'S PERFORMANCE

PA281905 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Jan 83 p 20

[Text] "The liberal government's first year has been most frustrating to the people who cast their vote on 29 November 1981 hoping President Roberto Suazo Cordova would find a solution to the social problems affecting the country." This statement was made by the secretary of the Honduran National Peasant Unity Front [Funacamp], Francisco Ramos, who added that the new taxes and the increased prices of staples had seriously affected the population. He said that in order to remain in power, the government had entered into an alliance with the armed forces which continues to rule behind the charisma [as published] of the liberal government.

He pointed out that although this is a constitutional democratic government, peasants and labor leaders continue to be arrested, and people continue to disappear, without the authorities doing anything to clarify this.

"Only 3 months after the government took office, 298 peasants had been thrown in jail merely because they demanded that the authorities speed up agrarian reform," he said.

As to agrarian reform, the peasant leader considers it a total failure, contrary to the government's announcement before it assumed power. "President Suazo Cordova promised to promote a participatory agrarian reform which fit the peasants' needs," he added.

He declared that Funacamp, faced with the paralysis of agrarian reform, will continue to seize land, regardless of the government's opinion that the organization is promoting disturbance of the peace in the country. "We insist that there will never be peace and tranquillity in Honduras unless social problems are solved," Ramos concluded.

NICARAGUA

WOMEN'S GROUPS PROTEST AT HONDURAN EMBASSY

PA310250 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Hundreds of Nicaraguan mothers protested on Saturday before the Honduran Embassy in Managua against the joint maneuvers that Honduran and U.S. forces will begin on Tuesday.

The demonstrators, who belong to the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association, gathered at the Honduran Embassy to present a protest letter that none of the officials was willing to accept. Sectors of the Honduran Government and army are accused of protecting the criminal actions of the counterrevolutionary groups against Nicaragua.

MARCH TO U.S. EMBASSY PLANNED FOR 2 FEB

PA312014 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] On Saturday, all mass organizations linked to the FSLN began preparing and organizing a march which is to be staged Wednesday in front of the U.S. Embassy in Managua. The marchers will protest the 'Big Pine' military maneuvers which will begin tomorrow under the sponsorship of the Honduran and U.S. Governemnts. The maneuvers will be staged on Honduran territory only 15 km from the Nicaraguan border.

The CDS [Sandinist Defense Committee] of Managua, the 19 July Sandinist Youth, AMNLAE [Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association], the Sandinist Workers Federation, the mothers of Heroes and Martyrs -- who already marched Saturday in front of the Yankee Embassy, or rather the Honduran Embassy, to the same protest battlecry -- ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers]. the Agricultural Workers Association and UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen], accompanied by political parties of the revolutionary democratic front will be the vanguard of this great march on Wednesday afternoon, 2 February.

It will be an anti-imperialist march which, with great patriotic ferver and within the framework of the orderliness which has characterized the protests which have already been staged against the armed threats of the enemies of the Sandinist revolution, will know how to say: We want peace and we will defend it to the ultimate consequences.

BORGE SAYS MANEUVERS U.S. 'STRATEGIC BLUNDER'

PA292330 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Jan 83 pp 1, 10

[Text] Tomas Borge, commander of the revolution and interior minister, told EL NUEVO DIARIO last night that very grave and serious incidents may occur in Central America in the coming days due to the strategic blunder of the U.S. Government.

In a telephone conversation with our staff, the Sandinist leader also warned of the threat posed by the U.S.-Honduran joint "Big Pine" military maneuvers to be held beginning 1 February and which, according to reports from Yankee sources, will mobilize almost 7,000 soldiers on land, air and sea, at a distance no more than 15 km from the Nicaraguan border with Honduras.

"These maneuvers," Commander Borge noted, "go beyond the limit of political cynicism. They are senseless, dangerous and disrespect international principles." He also expressed his concern with the current suspicious and alarming situation in Central America.

He firmly rejected the Honduran "invitation" to Nicaragua to attend the military operations as an observer. Regarding this, he said: They have the cyncism to invite us as observers, as if we were imbeciles, to see how they sharpen the knife with which they want to stab us in the back.

With his characteristic integrity, Tomas Borge said: The United States will regret what happens in Central America. He also referred to the order given by the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador for U.S. residents to leave El Salvador before 11 January.

"What can this signify," he asked. "Apparently it (the United States) is confessing that it is going to intervene in El Salvador."

Commander Borge also said that, aside from the immediate problems that may occur, the military movements to be carried out by the Reagan administration in February "are a veritable strategic blunder, because they involve all of Central America in the conflict."

Further Borge Comments

PA301246 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge confirmed yesterday that Costa Rica is involved in the military maneuvers that the United States and Central American armies will stage throughout the area. The maneuvers will begin on 1 February.

Yesterday BARRICADA denounced the involvement of the Costa Rican public forces through a "security and control operation" which will begin on 5 February. Borge said that "it is possible that in the next months, maybe even days, very grave, very serious incidents could occur in Central America." Borge added "we are on the alert, vigilant; we are not going to fall asleep nor sit with our arms folded."

Using strong terms, the Sandinist leader said that operations Hawk View 83 and Fury IV "apart from being disrespectful to international general principles, cynical and dangerous, are also senseless."

Further on Borge said: "As a last resort, those maneuvers are a real strategic blunder on the part of the U.S. Government. In any event, we are not the ones who will regret all this; we have nothing to regret. The consequences of what can occur in Central America will be historically positive for our people." Tomas also said that "it is suspicious and alarming that U.S. citizens living in El Salvador have been asked to leave El Salvador when the maneuvers begin. What does this mean? Are they admitting beforehand that they are going to intervene in El Salvador? Doesn't that seem to be the case or not?" Borge asked.

EDITORIAL SEES REAGAN 'ISRAELIZING' HONDURAS

PA300440 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 25 Jan 83 p3

[Editorial: "Clumsy Attempt to Israelize Honduras"]

[Text] The U.S. Government, heedless of the international clamor for peace in Central America, has doubled its warmongering aims by holding openly interventionist military maneuvers that place the whole area on the verge of a great conflict.

It cannot be by sheer coincidence that the joint Honduran-U.S. maneuvers along the Nicaraguan border are announced simultaneously with similar maneuvers in Costa Rica along the Nicaraguan border, as well as on the Honduran border with El Salvador and Guatemala.

Honduras thus becomes the hub of U.S. strategy for Central America. This is most certainly a clumsy strategy, because by placing the area in a war plan that will end in U.S. military intervention, the U.S. completely forgets that our peoples have risen against injustice and repression, and that this war will end only when the peoples win their respective victories.

Although the Honduran Government is trying to play down the importance of the provocative Big Pine maneuvers, which will be carried out by more than 7,000 troops mobilized along our border, other officials do not belittle their importance.

Francisco Dario Lobo, Honduran representative to the United Nations, for example, yesterday said that the maneuvers are criticized because "of their enormous magnitude."

In reply to a BARRICADA report, the Costa Rican Government yesterday denied Costa Rican forces are conducting joint maneuvers along the border with U.S. troops. However, the Costa Rican spokesmen did not reply concretely to the newspaper's charges.

The Costa Ricans base their reply on the fact that "if we don't have an army, we cannot conduct military maneuvers." At the same time, however, they admit that there are "strong patrol operations along the Atlantic coast as well as in Guanacaste," supposedly to pursue the Somozists. The Costa Ricans have a simple reply to the presence of a U.S. frigate in Limon; it is a "good will visit that has been used traditionally to conduct cultural programs, sports events and community welfare tasks."

We can see the absurdity of this reasoning by merely bearing in mind that this warship has been remodeled to operate in this area, and is stationed at a Costa Rican port at the very time Reagan is trying to increase his war plans in Central America. Even acknowledging Costa Rica's particular characteristics, we find it hard to believe that while Yankee "advisers" direct the war in El Salvador, and while they are building bases and training and arming the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras, the frigate's visit is limited to friendly baseball or volleyball games, while blood is being shed in nearby countries.

Reagan has lost his head, and, in his quest to make Honduras a small Central American Israel, he sends his helicopters to the Salvadoran border in a zone where there is intense fighting, trying to provoke an incident that will "justify" massive intervention against the Salvadoran patriots.

In the midst of all this are his plans to destroy the Sandinist people's revolution. Reagan's adventurism threatens the region with increasing aggressiveness. It has been proven over and over again, as most of the countries have said, that the historical responsibility for whatever happens will fall on the Reagan administration, and on those in this area who might make the mistake of unleashing a conflict that our peoples will undoubtedly win.

PARTY MEETING DEBATES POLITICAL PARTIES BILL

PA280524 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1412 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- At a meeting held to discuss a proposed political parties law, the Nicaraguan Communist Party asked for the exclusion of the "bourgeois parties."

Although the opposition parties were not mentioned by name by the Communist Party Central Committee, everyone understood that the reference was to the dissident political organizations.

The Nicaraguan Socialist Party (PSN) made allusions to the "rightist parties."

Luis Sanchez Sancho, secretary general of the PSN, said: "The (political parties) law should help to promote the development of revolutionary and popular democracy."

Isidro Tellez, secretary general of the Marxist-Leninist Peoples Action Movement (MAP), was more emphatic when he said: "we deny the legitimacy of the bourgeois parties. The reasons are on the border (with Honduras) and in the hundreds of murdered Nicaraguan citizens."

The meeting held in Managua's Cesar Augusto Silva convention center, which ends today, has been attended -- with the exception of the opposition parties -- by the parties represented on the Council of State.

The Communist Party and the MAP, which are not represented on the Council of State, have also participated. These maintain positions opposing those of the Sandinist front on various issues.

The opposition groups of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board have not participated. Their leaders are on a tour of South and Central America to meet presidents of the region.

The leaders of the opposition -- or the right, as they are called here by the leftist parties -- said that they were not attending the discussions because the proper conditions for a broad and free dissemination of the debates do not exist in the country.

The Sandinist government will take the proposed political parties law before the Council of State "as one more step in the institutionalization of the Nicaraguan political model."

FSLN Concedes Parties' Rights

PA291548 Paris AFP in Spanish 1622 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Managua, 27 Jan (AFP) -- The FSLN "recognizes the right of other political parties to aspire to achieve public power in Nicaragua," Carlos Zamora, member of the highest FSLN consultative body, said last night at a symposium held to debate the political parties bill that goes to the State Council today.

Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council, said that the bill, which has been rejected by several opposition parties, "is not inalterable."

The proposals made at the symposium could be incorporated in the bill and an initiative considering legislation to "institutionalize democracy in Nicaragua" could even be considered, Nunez added.

These remarks appear to respond to the objections made at the symposium by several organizations and the withdrawal of the [name indistinct] and Democratic Conservative parties, whose objective is "to confuse the national and international public opinion," according to Nunez.

Zamora said that the FSLN recognizes the right of the other political parties and organizations to organize themselves and to fight to achieve political power, but added that "what could not happen in Nicaragua is a step backward in history and a return to power of the class that previously dominated the country and humiliated the people."

"The victories and power achieved by the revolution cannot be wrenched from the popular classes," he said.

PSN, PCDEN LEADERS MEET TO EXCHANGE VIEWS

PA300039 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Jan 83 p 5

[Text] Luis Sanchez Sancho, leader of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party [PSN], which is part of the so-called Patriotic Front of the Revolution [FPR], has told about a meeting this week with leaders of the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCDEN]. This is the first time that two principal leftwing organizations in Nicaragua met this year, manifesting an interest in the different ideologies regarding the plans of each of the two organizations. Luis Sanchez Sancho noted that the PCDEN and PSN met on Tuesday of this week at the request of the communist leaders. The purpose was to exchange general views on the country's political situation and the problem of the political parties law.

Sanchez Sancho said the PSN thinks that national policy issues are resolved fundamentally through and the exchange of opinions. Today, as in the past, the PSN is ready to talk in an attempt to find common views, principally with revolutionary forces, as in this case with the PCDEN. The meeting between PCDEN and PSN leaders, who represent active extremist organizations in the country, allowed for a general exchange of views, the most salient being Nicaragua's current situation.

The Socialists and the Communists agreed on some aspects of the parties bill, such as the eminently democratic nature that should characterize the national council of political parties, which will administer and safeguard the application of the law.

The PSN and the PCDEN agree in general terms that it must be a flexible, broad law, within the spirit and framework of revolutionary pluralism, development and the strengthening of democracy within the revolution.

Parties Questioned at Forum

PA311749 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 26 Jan 83 p 10

[Text] Both the Marxist-Leninist Peoples Action Movement (MAP-ML) and the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCDEN] led by Eli Altamirano, were severely questioned during a panel discussion yesterday at the end of the second session of the "Heroes and Martyrs of January" symposium on political parties, which was held at the Cesar Augusto Silva Conventions Center. The two were questioned for maintaining "ultrist" positions on the Sandinist people's revolution and its vanguard, the FSLN.

Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, vice president of the State Council, was among those who questioned the two at the end of last night's session. Solis regretted the fact that these groups still uphold the thesis that the Sandinist people's revolution is a "bourgeois democratic revolution," apparently still trying to make the country establish "socialism by decree." According to Solis, such a possibility really lies outside any dialectical logic or the geopolitics in which the Nicaraguan process is currently immersed.

PCDEN's Altamirano and the MAP-ML's Chilo Tellez sat "on the dock" for a long time during the last part of yesterday's session. Neither was able to give satisfactory answers to the questions posed to them by the representatives of the various parties and mass organizations represented at the event.

Those questioning the "ultrist" positions also included Moises Lopez, of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement; Daniel Molina of UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen]; Rafael Caceres, a representative at the State Council; and Orlando Gomez. Gomez asked why the programs of both the PCDEN and the MAP-ML made an abstraction of the Sandinist revolution's principles of political pluralism, mixed economy and nonalignment. He was practically told that these organizations do not believe in these things.

In answer to another question, Tellez denied the FSLN's valid role as vanguard of the Nicraguan revolutionary process. Incredibly, he said that in his opinion "the Nicaraguan labor class' vanguard" is the MAP, "which I represent." For his part, Altamirano said that he defines the Sandinist people's revolution as a "revolution of national liberation." He admitted, however, that it is also "democratic and anti-imperialistic."

Carlos Perez Bermudez, another PCDEN member, also insisted on the labor movement's historical participation in the struggle for liberation, reviewing in the process what the "workers' parties" did and did not do in the past. With his statement, Perez Bermudez sought to complete some of the unclear passages in the speech that Luis Sanchez Sancho, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, had delivered in the morning.

FIDEL RECEIVES UNION AWARD IN CAMAGUEY

FL311535 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1215 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The first Jose Maria Perez award was given to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz at a ceremony held at the friendship house in Camaguey within the framework of activities to celebrate railroad workers' day. This highest distinction given by the Transportation Workers Union [SNNT] was also awarded to Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia, Jorge Risquet and Julio Camacho Aguilera, all of them members of the Politburo, as well as to SNNT Secretary General Alfredo Suarez and Jesus Escandel, member of the executive secretariat of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions.

FIDEL HEADS MARTI ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FL311334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, headed the great parade which marked the end of the national celebration of the 130th anniversary of Jose Marti's birth.

The ceremony, which brought together more than 100,000, began with the placing of 130 baskets of flowers on Marti's mausoleum. A pioneer leader paid homage to Marti in a speech.

RODRIGUEZ INTERVIEWED BEFORE VISIT TO INDIA

FL312040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1914 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of Cuba's Council of State and Ministers, will soon be going to the Indian capital to exchange views with Indian officials in New Delhi regarding the seventh summit [of the Nonaligned Movement].

Before departing for that Asian country, the Cuban leader granted an interview to the news agency PRESS TRUST OF INDIA. In his talk with the Indian news agency, Carlos Rafael said he considered it very important that India and its leader Indira Gandhi would be assuming responsibility for the Nonaligned Movement at this time. He also said he carried a message from Fidel for the Indian prime minister, that the two countries are working closely together and have a high degree of agreement in points of view.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez praised the leadership qualities of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her country. The Cuban vice president said: I am confident that under India's leadership there is going to be greater Nonaligned Movement unity in its efforts for peace and disarmament.

He also said that he would be exchanging views on matters dealing with the summit where, he stressed, both Mrs Gandhi and Fidel must assume their responsibilities in their capacities as incoming and outgoing chairmen of the movement.

Concluding, Carlos Rafael said that our fatherland will give India its comments on the documents to be presented in the meeting of heads of state and government this coming March.

Departs 31 Jan

FL311342 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has left for India on an official visit that will last from 2 to 6 February.

MONTANE HOLDS TALKS WITH ALGERIAN LEADERS

FL311430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Jesus Montane, alternate member of the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Politburo and chief of the Central Committee's Department of Foreign Relations, carried out a very busy schedule in Algeria on Sunday. Montane heads an official delegation visiting Algeria.

The Cuban leader was received by Rabah Bitat, member of the Politburo of the National Liberation Front Party (LFN) and president of the National People's Assembly. He also met with Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and official in charge of the FLN Permanent Secretariat. Montane held friendly talks with these two Algerian leaders and discussed bilateral relations and their future development, as well as international topics.

Bitat and Messaadia agreed with Montane in expressing the will of the two sides to continue to reinforce bilateral relations especially through an increase in contacts between the parties, governments and parliaments of Algeria and Cuba.

Montane also met with Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member and Algerian foreign minister, and with Mohammed Salem ould Salek, member of the Polisario Front's Politburo and president of the Foreign Relations Committee of this front.

Shortly before this meeting, Montane and his group toured historical regions of eastern Algeria.

HAVANA NOTES ATTEMPT TO KILL SURINAME'S BOUTERSE

FL010210 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] A plot to kill the top leader of the Surinamese process, Daysi Bouterse, has been repulsed by the national army. The SURINAMESE NEWS AGENCY reported that the national army carried out an action last night in which it seized a large quantity of weapons which the conspirators had obtained illegally. Fifteen person were arrested, among them the chief of the capital's guard, Roy Horb, and some of his security guards.

SUPREME COURT JUDGES, ATTORNEY GENERAL SWORN IN

FL272339 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2102 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, member of the Politburo and minister of justice, made the closing remarks at a ceremony held today to present election certificates to the president and professional and lay judges of the People's Supreme Court as well as to the attorney general and deputy attorney general of the republic.

Flavio Bravo, on behalf of the supreme body of the state, presented the certificates to the president of the court, Jose R. Amaro Salup; to the attorney general, Idalberto L. De Guevara, and to others who were elected.

Jose Aranaburu, secretary of the National Assembly, read the agreements adopted by the state's supreme body in its last meeting which announce the winners of the elections for the court presidency and the attorney general office.

Osvaldo Dorticos said the elected comrades, upon receiving the certificates, will assume a very high responsibility. He made a brief evaluation of the courts' work and commented on future activities.

He noted some of the characteristics of the process for electing professionals and lay judges of the country's people's courts. He said this process has been preceded by a firm effort aimed at attaining the greatest depth in the mechanism of selection and evaluation of the candidates.

Dorticos stressed that the exercise of the function of judging implies exceptional duties and, thus, it is not exaggerated to demand that the requsites of political and moral behavior needed as a judge be exceptional too. We hope to achieve a communion of ideas; the hope that the immense majority of the judges beginning their mandate today will march together with the party and government in the development of a policy of exigencies, Justice Minister Osvaldo Dorticos stated. He added: This is the only path that can be followed toward a true socialist legality.

Elsewhere in his speech, Dorticos explained that it is well-known that lately there have been some cases of corruption. He added that the necessary measures have been adopted to clarify doubtful behaviors and purge from the administration of justice and the office of the attorney general those who stigmatize those institutions.

Dorticos referred to an agreement of the party Politburo on the development and formation of juridical cadres in the country. With respect to the office of the attorney general, he explained the need for filling vacancies and completing a modification of its structure. Dr Dorticos added that the agreement provides for measures whose implementation is just beginning, and that they are directed at adopting a work structure which will have good results in the practice of justice.

Lastly, he urged them to place at the disposal of the institution their virtues and talents, the commitment of revolutionary ideology, labor enthusiasm and the spirit of scientific excelling.

BRIEFS

DAMAGE TO TOBACCO CROPS -- Havana Jan 29, CANA-REUTER -- Torrential rains have dashed Cuban hopes of a bumper tobacco crop, according to the Cuban Ministry of Agriculture. Tobacco experts had forecast a record crop for the famous Vuelta Abajo tobacco growing region of western Cuba but rainfall so far this month has been almost four times higher than average. Despite emergency measures involving thousands of volunteer workers, almost 3,500 hectares of tobacco plants were destroyed and another 4,500 hectares damaged out of a total 33,550 hectares, the ministry said. Rainfall also damaged the tobacco crop in Villa Clara Province in central Cuba, although the extent of damage was not known, the newspaper JUVENTUD REBELDE reported. In Vuelta Abajo, work to replant the lost acreage has begun "to try to allow the province to achieve its projected goals," Orlando Gutierrez, an Agriculture Ministry official said. During the first 25 days of January, 219 millimetres of rain fell in western Cuba. The average rainfall in January is 58 millimetres. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1927 GMT 29 Jan 83 FL]

SANTIAGO TO HOST CELEBRATION -- The 26 July commemorative celebration of the 30th anniversary of the assault on Moncada Barracks will be held in Santiago de Cuba, the site of that glorious exploit, according to an accord approved by the party Politburo. This decision constitutes a just recognition of the positive results achieved by the people of Santiago during recent years in all areas of the revolution's tasks. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Jan 83 FL]

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

BIRD EXPLAINS REJECTION OF IMF RECOMMENDATIONS

FL311748 Bridgetown CANA in English 1630 GMT 31 Jan 83

[By Denis Seon]

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Jan 31, CANA -- Antigua and Barbuda has rejected International Monetary Fund (IMF) recommendations because they would have created hardships for the people here, Prime Minister Vere Bird said.

Bird, speaking at the reopening of a mattress factory destroyed by fire last year, made it clear that his government had never sought IMF assistance, but that the fund had volunteered the recommendations after a study of the Antiguan economy.

The fund, in a report last December, suggested a 40-per cent reduction in the public service, a freeze wage increases for government departments, and the abandonment of a youth employment programme.

"What will have happened to those poor people if my government had accepted those recommendations; to me it would have brought further hardships on those people," the prime minister said.

As for the abandonment of the youth programme, he declared: "Do you think it will be fair to me to get rid of all those crash programmes for the young people in this country. Many of them look forward to joining this programme when they leave school."

Mr Bird said that reducing the civil service by 40 per cent was out of question because the private sector was in no position to absorb those who would have been retrenched. However, he said his government was pressing ahead with its assistance programmes to the private sector, as well as with its industrialisation schemes, so that additional jobs can be created for school leavers.

Bird's comments were the latest on the IMF made here after reports that the fund had submitted recommendations for economic austerity. Dr Leslie Lett, a leading churchman, last week criticised the policies of the fund as being out of tune with the requirements of Third World countries.

In Barbados, Secretary/Treasurer of the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) Burns Bonadie, had also attacked the IMF recommendations for Antigua and Barbuda in a feature address to recent annual conference of the ruling Barbados Labour Party (BLP).

BARBADOS

PAPER SAYS RELATIONS WITH CUBA ENTER NEW PHASE

FL311500 Bridgetown CANA in English 1638 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 30, CANA -- Barbados oldest newspaper, the "SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS", today said the country's relations with Cuba were entering a new phase with the signing of a cooperation agreement but said this did not mean "we are to become Marxists".

Said the paper in its editorial: "The point that has to be taken is that whatever our ideology we will always have something in common or something to be shared -- our common humanity ensures this."

The cultural accord signed with Cuba during a recent visit by Barbados Foreign Minister Louis Tull covers cultural exchanges featuring artists, writers, scientists, educators, and the exchange of information, among other areas. Minister of Foreign Affairs Tull said the agreement formalised a situation that had been existing for sometime.

The paper noted that there has been some discussion about trade between the two countries but nothing concrete had been decided on for one reason or another. Barbados imports mainly cement from Cuba.

The paper said that a number of Barbadians have gone to work and live in Cuba over the years "so that even before there were formal diplomatic contacts there have been contacts between the people from the two countries."

"Our relations with Cuba are now about to enter into a new phase. We need not approach this with any trepidation. We know what we are and we know what causes the Cubans support," the paper said. It added: "Mutual respect is not impossible within the context of these differences."

Barbados Ambassador to the United Nations Harley Mosely recently presented his credentials in Havana as ambassador to Cuba.

PRIME MINISTER ADAMS RESHUFFLES CABINET

FL311215 Bridgetown CANA in English 1753 GMT 30 Jan 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 30, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams today increased his cabinet membership from 12 to 13, promoting a parliamentary secretary (junior minister) to a full minister and allocating new portfolios to four others in his first major reshuffle since the June 1981 general election.

Mr Adams made the announcement in an address to the second and final day of the annual general conference of his ruling Barbados, Labour Party (BLP). He said the changes were made to meet the "new challenges" expected as a result of major government projects to come on stream shortly.

Parliamentary secretary in the prime minister's office with responsibility for energy, Senator Clyde Griffith, was appointed minister of state in the Ministry of Finance and Planning with responsibility for planning, including energy.

Health Minister Lloyd Brathwaite moves to the Ministry of Housing and Lands while transport and works minister, Dr Don Blackman, takes responsibility for health, while retaining his community services portfolio.

Minister of housing and lands, Delisle Bradshaw, is the new minister of labour. He replaces Vic Johnson who has been allocated the Transport and Works Ministry.

The capital projects mentioned by Mr Adams include housing development and the construction of a "ring road" around Bridgetown, the Barbados capital. This project is likely to be completed by 1986, the prime minister said.

Following is the new line-up of the Barbados cabinet:

Prime minister and minister of finance: Tom Adams
Deputy prime minister and minister of trade, industry and tourism: Bernard St John

Minister of information and culture; Senator Nigel Barrow
Attorney-general and minister for foreign affairs; Louis Tull
Minister of education: Miss Billie Miller
Minister of health and community services: Dr Don Blackman
Minister of agriculture, food and consumer affairs; Dr Richard Cheltenham
Minister of labour: Delisle Bradshaw
Minister of transport and works: Vic Johnson
Minister of housing and lands: Lloyd Brathwaite
Minister of state responsible for immigration: Senator O'Brien Trotman
Minister of parliamentary affairs: Lionel Craig
Minister of state responsible for planning: Senator Clyde Griffith.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT, BARBADOS DISCUSS TRADE DIFFERENCES

FL311930 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 27 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] A Jamaican ministerial team led by deputy prime minister, Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, met yesterday morning with a four-man delegation from Barbados to discuss the impact on Barbados-Jamaica trade, of the new economic measures instituted earlier this month by the Jamaican Government. With Mr. Shearer, who has ministerial responsibility for foreign trade, were the Hon. Douglas Vaz, minister of industry and commerce, and the Hon. Anthony Johnson, minister of state in that ministry, as well as Senior Jamaican officials.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Barbados delegation, led by Mr. Philip Williams, executive director of the Barbados Export Promotion Corporation, has been in Jamaica this week for discussions with members of the public and private sectors. They expressed to the Jamaican ministers the concern of Barbados manufacturers over the possible adverse effect of the new economic measures here, on Barbadian exports to Jamaica. Mr Shearer, in giving some background to the new policies, said that the interests of the peoples and governments of Caricom countries, with whom Jamaica had a special relationship, had been taken into account when designing the new measures, which he hoped would prove to be mutually beneficial.

An area of particular concern to the Barbadian delegation was the effect on price of placing much of Caricom trade -- except for basic raw materials and foodstuffs -- on the parallel market. Mr Vaz said that this would be the case for all imports not only those from Barbados. Furthermore, imports from third countries now attracted duty at the parallel market rate, while Caricom imports were duty free. The Barbados delegation agreed with Mr. Shearer that the new system contained some improvements over the old one, especially in the abolition of the licensing system which had previously applied to imports. Mr. Shearer pointed out that quantitative restrictions and 360-day credits, which had drawn criticism from Caricom traders, had also been abolished.

The two sides agreed to exchange trade data to enable a detailed analysis with a view to arriving at a more precise picture of the situation. With Mr. Williams were: Mr. Vanburn Gaskin, assistant director of operations, Barbados Export Promotions Corporation; Mrs. Marion Williams, assistant manager, banking and currency dept., Central Bank of Barbados; and Mr. Jefferson Reeves, manager, export credit insurance and guarantee dept., Central Bank of Barbados. The honorary consul for Barbados in Jamaica, Mr. Winston Bayley, accompanied the delegation.

Jamaican officials included: Mr. Frank Francis, permanent secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Peter King, executive director of the Jamaica National Export Corporation; and Mr. Tom Simpson, director of foreign trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MIRROR SAYS PRIVATE SECTOR TO BE REACTIVATED

FL271742 Bridgetown CANA in English 1722 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 27, CANA -- The opposition-backed MIRROR newspaper has said the Guyana Government is planning to turn over significant sectors of the country's economy to the private sector.

"The (ruling) People's National Congress [PNC], the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank, have agreed on conditions in a so-called action programme, to turn over significant sectors of the Guyana economy to the private sector, both local and foreign," the paper said. It added that the move was stated in a special report to the GLOBE AND MAIL newspaper of Canada by Robert Thomson, editor of the bi-monthly Caribbean Basin Report.

The MIRROR said Mr Thomson, who visited Guyana last November, had stated that the Guyana authorities have denied that such a programme exists. "According to the report, the World Bank-inspired action programme is aimed at narrowing the range of public sector activities, the MIRROR said. It added that the impression is conveyed that while control will shift from the state sector to a new group of entrepreneurs, it will remain with members of the ruling PNC.

The MIRROR said: "In the article, Thomson referred to a document from the parliamentary sub-committee on Canada's relations with Latin America and the Caribbean which recommended a reduction of Canadian aid to Guyana because of widespread human rights abuses in the country." The newspaper said the document suggested that aid be directed to small projects in the private sector rather than to the PNC government.

BURNHAM CALLS U.S. DENIAL OF MONEY 'BLESSING'

FL281711 Bridgetown CANA in English 1534 GMT 28 Jan 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 28, CANA -- Guyana's President Forbes Burnham sees the decision by the United States not to grant his government money to purchase wheat, as a blessing in disguise, the GUYANA NEWS AGENCY (GNA) has reported. The report came out of the General Council meeting of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) held last weekend. The GNA was the only news medium allowed participation at the meeting.

Mr Burnham was referring to a decision last year by the United States not to grant credit to this country to purchase wheat from Canada. "The decision was a blessing to Guyana," he told the General Council meeting. "As a result of that decision we have been forced to learn to use what we have," the GNA quoted him as saying.

The president also stressed the importance of [the] Guyanese becoming involved in an agricultural drive, the report said. "We have all got to excite our minds about how we could become involved," Mr Burnham said.

"Regional chairmen must seek to excite the minds of those whom they represent about the importance of their active involvement in the agricultural thrust," he said. Mr Burnham called on teachers and students in the country's education system to become involved in agricultural programmes.

BOUTERSE REPORTS SMASHING ATTEMPTED COUP

PA311850 Paris AFP in Spanish 1838 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Georgetown, 31 Jan (AFP) -- A plot to murder Lt Col Daysi Bouterse and carry out a coup d'etat in Suriname was smashed by the government today, according a Radio Paramaribo broadcast heard in Georgetown.

The radio report said that Bouterse's army chief of staff, Major Roy Horb, two cabinet ministers of the present government -- Jan Sariman (agriculture) and John Hardjoprajitno (culture) -- and another 12 persons have been arrested.

Bouterse himself made the charge over the radio station.

AFP Reports Further Details

PA312007 Paris AFP in Spanish 1923 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] Georgetown, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Suriname, the most unstable nation in South America, experienced a new coup attempt today, "strong man" Lt Col Daysi Bouterse charged, it was learned today in this capital.

In the last 6 months, Bouterse has faced a number of military conspiracies, labor and business strikes and political conspiracies, which have turned his country into the most agitated nation in South America. Suriname's political future is still marked by uncertainty.

The Armed Forces' internal division, already evinced in 1982 through actual military actions against "strong man Bouterse," was indirectly confirmed today by Bouterse himself. His voice was monitored here in the capital of Guyana, which borders on Suriname.

In a faltering but still strong voice, Bouterse said on state-owned Radio Paramaribo that his own former next-in-command, Maj Roy Horb, had been detained for his participation in the conspiracy, intended not only to stage a coup in Suriname, but to kill Bouterse as well.

Two ministers -- Jan Sariman (agriculture) and Captain Hardjoprajitno (culture) -- are among the prisoners.

The detention of 12 other people, including military men and civilians, and Bouterse's charge that arms and ammunitions caches had been discovered by the military men who remained loyal to him, confirmed the original rumors that the Paramaribo government was again walking a tightrope.

In November 1982, a number of antigovernment strikes led by Cyrill Daal, which were unanimously supported by the unions, forced Bouterse to make certain political concessions to his opponents.

However, in what constituted a fulminant blow, Bouterse detained and executed 15 well-known opponents 1 and 1/2 months ago. Daal himself was among those executed.

Bouterse justified this execution as the consequence of an abortive conspiracy against him.

Bouterse charged at the time that the Netherlands (a former colonial power in Suriname) and the United States were both implicated in this conspiracy led by union leader Daal.

The executions and the charges of international complicity in the foiled conspiracy seemed to isolate Bouterse from the Western Hemisphere while moving Suriname closer to the Soviet Union and Cuba, according to travelers who had recently arrived in Georgetown from neighboring Paramaribo.

Horb, who is now detained, had been one of Bouterse's major collaborators ever since a group of military officers staged a coup in 1980 in the neighboring country, which the international press described as "the sergeants' coup."

In his speech on Radio Paramaribo, which was monitored here, Bouterse added that the situation in Suriname was under the government's control and that the enemies of his nation had again failed in their antinational and sinister plans.

Despite these assertions by the Suriname leader, the Guyanese observers of the situation in neighboring Suriname agree that, despite this new cleanup operation, Bouterse is stumbling on various difficulties, not only among the civilian sector, but, most important, among the military ranks.

Hilversum International Report

PA312343 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] The Military Command of Suriname has reported the discovery of another coup d'etat plan, which would have been carried out at 2300 yesterday, Sunday. It was supposed to have included the murder of Commander in Chief Daysi Bouterse and his closest advisers.

According to the Suriname Armed Forces, many illegal weapons have been seized and 15 conspirators have been arrested, including Maj Roy Horb and several of his security agents. Several of the persons detained are now under arrest after being questioned, such as Ministers Hardjoprajinto and Sariman.

Major Horb was part of the group of soldiers that took over control of the nation in February 1980. Horb was considered one of Bouterse's closest advisers. However, after the executions on 8 December 1982, Horb became alienated from Bouterse.

Meanwhile, Daysi Bouterse has ordered the lawyer Errol Alibux, former housing and social affairs minister, to form a new government. He is a member of the Progressive Workers and Farm Laborers Union, one of the leftist parties in which Daysi Bouterse has finally been able to find support.

CANA Carries SNA Report

FL312336 Bridgetown CANA in English 2317 GMT 31 Jan 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 31, CANA -- Suriname's military authorities today reported the arrests last night of 15 persons, including Deputy Army Commander Major Roy Horb, for attempting to overthrow the regime of army strongman Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse.

The official Suriname News Agency (SNA), in a telex dispatch to CANA's Barbados headquarters, said interim ministers of culture and agriculture respectively, John Hardjoprajitno and Jan Sariman, were under house arrest. A large quantity of arms was seized during the crackdown, SNA added.

National information service director, Dick de Bie, said the authorities would tomorrow release full details of the alleged coup plot, the second reported by the military leadership to topple it from power in just over a month.

News of the arrests came just hours after Commander Bouterse had appointed former social services minister, Errol Alibux, to form a new government, expected to be sworn in on February 25 to coincide with the third anniversary of the Army's rise to power in the former Dutch colony.

Suriname's ruling military said early last month that it had foiled an alleged plot to topple it from power around Christmas. Fifteen men, accused of involvement in the plot, were shot dead by troops during what they said was a bid to escape custody. Critics of the military regime said the men were executed.

Unconfirmed reports earlier this month out of Paramaribo, the Suriname capital, said serious differences had developed in recent months between Commander Bouterse and Major Horb. The reports also said that Horb had resigned as deputy commander, but this was not confirmed by the authorities.

There have been growing signs of internal unrest within the Suriname Army since last December's disturbances. Air Force chief, John Vasilda, fled the country this month for Holland and Commander Bouterse relieved 12 officers of their Army posts because of what the military leadership said was "the desire to strengthen the unity and stability of the Army."

Last night's alleged coup plot is at least the sixth since the February 1980 revolution. Last March, Sergeant-Major Wilfred Hawker was executed by firing squad for leading a rightwing rebellion against Commander Bouterse, who is determined to transform Suriname into a socialist state.

OPPOSITION GROUP SURFACES IN WASHINGTON

FL311925 Georgetown Guyana Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Text] A group opposing the government in Suriname has surfaced in the United States and is asking the U.S. Congress for help. The group, called the Surinamese Freedom Union, distributed press releases in Washington over the weekend and is asking Washington to adopt policies of condemnation and protest against the government of Col Daysi Bouterse.

The death of (?15) people in the former Dutch colony last month have attracted feature articles in THE NEW YORK TIMES and the WALL STREET JOURNAL. THE TIMES and the JOURNAL charged that 15 prominent Surinamese were shot at point blank range and that some of the victims' bodies bore marks of torture and beatings.

The group claims that it has enlisted the support of Virginia Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson to press (?also for) the suspension of a $1.5 million grant in economic and military aid Washington intended to provide Suriname.